

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Respectfully,

R. CLEMENTS,
Captain, Commanding.

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

No. 14.

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

STOKES' BATTERY, IN CAMP NEAR MURFREESBOROUGH,
January 5, 1863.

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

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

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

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JAMES H. STOKES,
Captain, Commanding Battery.

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

No. 15.

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

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

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

Captain Dawson was especially distinguished for thrilling heroism and persistent courage. This officer, conspicuous in so many battles, and so well qualified, merits, and should receive, honorable promotion.

Adjutant Dubois, of the same regiment, deserves special mention for gallantry and good conduct.

The Forty-ninth Ohio sustained its high reputation, and, though it lost 10 officers, it faced the foe at every point. Captain Gray, as ranking officer, had charge of a portion of the regiment on the 31st, and proved himself brave, prudent, and competent for any command. Adjutant Norton was especially heroic, and excited general admiration by his inflexible courage and great activity. Both of these officers merit, and I hope will receive, promotion. Captains McCormack and Tyler were ever active, brave, and self-possessed in the midst of dangers, and showed themselves worthy and competent to command.

The splendid conduct of the Thirty-second Indiana fully sustained its claims to confidence. Every officer and man did his duty heroically. Lieutenant-Colonel Erdelmeyer, commanding, and Major Glass and Captain Mank were especially conspicuous throughout the long struggle.

Lieutenant-Colonel Hotchkiss, commanding Eighty-ninth Illinois Volunteers, deserves the highest praise for his coolness and skill in action. He drew off his men in good order, fighting as he withdrew, and showed himself worthy of any command. This gallant officer has given to the service one of its best regiments, and has justly earned promotion. Major Hall and Captain Whiting, brave and valuable officers, I regret to say, were made prisoners. All the officers and men of this regiment did their duty promptly, and earned the confidence of their companions in arms. Captain Williams, commanding during the illness of Lieutenant-Colonel Hotchkiss, is an efficient and competent officer.

The Thirty-ninth Indiana, Lieutenant-Colonel Jones commanding, fought with desperation and terrible effect. Its list of casualties shows that where it moved the battle raged most fierce. Men could not have evinced greater courage and heroism. Captains McClelland, Cody, McCoy, Graham, and Captain Herring, acting major, merit the highest praise for their activity and energy. Lieutenant-Colonel Jones discharged his duties in the most gallant manner; ever active and brave, he rallied his men at every point, and yielded only before overwhelming numbers. He met the foe in hand-to-hand conflict, and owes his escape to the skillful use of his side-arms. I beg leave to urge the name of this most meritorious officer upon the Executive of his State for promotion.

I cannot too highly commend the good conduct of Lieutenants Belding, Scovill, and Day, of Battery A, First Ohio Artillery, and the men under their command. The loss of three guns was from no fault of any one. Lieutenant Belding did splendid execution upon the enemy's column, and proved himself worthy of a command. I cannot too strongly urge his promotion upon the Executive of Ohio.

Surgeons Kunkler, Park, Tuttle, Kelly, and Pitman, as well as Dr. Corey, hospital steward of the Forty-ninth Ohio, remained on the field and labored for days and nights, unaided, in caring for our wounded. For thus faithfully performing their duty, at the risk of maltreatment, and possibly captivity, they have secured the confidence and respect of this command.

On the evening of the 31st, Captain Schmitt, Lieutenants Green, Miles, and McGrath, of General Willich's staff, reported to me for duty, and in all the subsequent operations of the command these gallant officers

were vigilant and prompt in every duty, and to them I am under special obligations for suggestions on the field. Though not acting under my personal observation on the 31st, they were in the thickest of the fight, and officers of experience speak of their conduct as being most intelligent and heroic in rallying our forces. James Purdy, mounted orderly, merits especial praise for his activity and courage throughout the week of battles.

I must express the deep regret of officers and men at the capture of Brigadier-General Willich; having the confidence of the brigade, and being a soldier of education and experience, his removal from the command at this juncture is a public misfortune.

To Brigadier-General Johnson we are under obligations for constant vigilance, unremitting energy, and his many acts of kindness and expressions of confidence toward this command.

In the name of the brigade, I am allowed to thank Major-General McCook and the general-in-chief for their flattering attentions on the field, and for their repeated exhibitions of confidence in our efficiency, prudence, and courage.

I am, most respectfully,

W. H. GIBSON,
Colonel, Commanding First Brigade.

Capt. J. R. BARTLETT,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 35.

Report of Lieut. Col. Charles T. Hotchkiss, Eighty-ninth Illinois Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTY-NINTH ILLINOIS INFANTRY,
FIRST BRIGADE, SECOND DIVISION, RIGHT WING,
In Camp near Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 7, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by this regiment in the series of engagements between the Federal and rebel forces near Murfreesborough, Tenn., and upon the approaches thereto, commencing on December 26, 1862, and ending on January 4, 1863, when the latter, under General Bragg, were defeated by the army of General Rosecrans and forced to evacuate all their positions in and about Murfreesborough.

This regiment left camp, in front of Nashville, with my brigade on the morning of December 26, taking the Nolensville pike and moving slowly with the column (as the enemy had to be driven by the advance) through Nolensville, Triune, and along the Murfreesborough and Franklin road, arriving, on the night of the 30th, at a point about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles due west from Murfreesborough, where, just after dark, the brigade was put in position on the extreme right of our right wing, about 200 yards in rear of and at right angles with Kirk's brigade.

My regiment was formed in double column at half distance in rear of the Forty-ninth Ohio, which was formed in line, fronting south. The Fifteenth Ohio formed in line, fronting west, on my right flank, with Battery A, First Ohio Artillery, near the right flank of the Forty-ninth Ohio and the left flank of the Fifteenth Ohio, the Thirty-second and Thirty-ninth Indiana Regiments being on picket covering the front of

our position both south and west, thus protecting the rear of the extreme right (Kirk's brigade) of the right wing. In this position my men bivouacked without fires for the night.

At 5.30 o'clock on the morning of December 31, as my men were building fires for cooking, rapid firing was heard on Kirk's front, which was almost instantly followed by the men of his brigade rushing in confusion and indiscriminately through our ranks and over my men, closely followed by a heavy column of rebel infantry. The enemy's fire being very severe and heavy upon us, and the large number of fugitives passing through and covering my front, together with peremptory orders communicated to regimental commanders of his brigade by General Willich the night previous, made it impossible for me to make a deployment or otherwise advantageously change my position.

To protect my men as much as possible from the enemy's fire, I ordered them to lie down. In that position they remained without confusion until my left wing was uncovered of fugitives and the enemy within 50 yards of my position, when I ordered that wing to fire, which was done with good effect, the colors of the leading column of rebels falling. Having received no orders as yet, and seeing the other regiments of the brigade falling back, I gave the order to retire by the right flank, on double-quick, which was done (but with some confusion), to a lane, about 400 yards in a northwesterly direction, where I placed Captains Willett's, Whiting's, and Comstock's, and Lieutenant Wells' companies in a very good position.

But few of our shots were wasted, the colors of the leading column of the enemy again falling under our fire; but, being closely pressed, I ordered the companies to retire on the same line of direction to a point on a small creek, about 500 yards distant, where I placed Captains Rowell's and Blake's companies under the partial cover of a thicket, and their fire most materially checked the enemy's advancing skirmishers, allowing me time to cross the creek with, and partially reorganize, my command, Captain Rowell's gradually following.

Following the line of the creek, I again crossed to a point some 500 yards southeast of the Second Division hospital, where, in an open field, I joined a portion of each of the Forty-ninth and Fifteenth Ohio and Thirty-second Indiana Regiments. The enemy's cavalry appearing on our right, and their infantry approaching on our left flank, threatening to cut us off, I moved by the left flank, the other regiments following, in a northeasterly direction, to a position in the woods on the south side of the Wilkinson pike, and about equidistant from the hospitals of the First (General Davis') and the Second (General Johnson's) Divisions, a position from which our fire, at short range over an open field, thinned the ranks and partially checked the advance of the rebels' closely pressing columns.

At this point, being informed of the loss of General Willich and Colonel Gibson, the next senior officer, the command of the brigade was assumed by Colonel Wallace, of the Fifteenth Ohio.

The forces (to me unknown) which here formed upon the right and left flanks of our brigade having retired, in obedience to orders I retired my regiment in line and in good order, making several stands in the same woods with the balance of the brigade to and near the right of General Rousseau's division, where I was ordered by General Johnson to take position in a cedar thicket on the right with some troops (to me unknown) who were in front and joining on the right of said division. Soon afterward, the troops on my right and left of the line, which

they and I in common held, having unexpectedly and rapidly retired, and my position just then receiving the brunt of the enemy's artillery and musketry fire, and my ammunition being exhausted, I retired my regiment, by the flank, to the rear, there replenishing my ammunition and resting my men, who had up to this time taken and delivered an unceasing fire for nearly five hours.

Later in the day, being informed of the position of the balance of the brigade, I at once rejoined them, when I was put in position on the right of the same, thus unitedly forming the second line of infantry (General Davis' division being in front) on the extreme right of the right wing, where we bivouacked that night without fires.

The operations of the regiment during the subsequent four days were in common with the brigade, and were not of a character to need from me particular mention, with the exception of the part taken by it on the night of Friday, January 2, when, under the command of Captain Williams (myself being unable to take active command), it had the responsible position of guarding the ford and supporting Captain Stokes' (Chicago Board of Trade) battery, while the forces under General Negley made the successful charge upon the enemy's right.

The behavior of the officers and men during this period, particularly in the trying action of the 31st, was, in steadiness and bravery, all that could be required by any commander. This phrase fully expresses my estimate of their conduct: "Every man that day did his duty." Where bravery and obedience were so general it is difficult for me to make personal discrimination; but among my non-commissioned officers I particularly commend, for their gallantry in rallying to my colors fugitives from other commands, Sergt. Maj. John M. Farquhar and Sergt. Erastus O. Young, of Company A; also Capt. Button G. Cody, of the Thirty-ninth Indiana, and Lieutenant Seifert, of the Thirty-second Indiana, who tendered their services to me on the field and fought gallantly in my ranks.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. T. HOTCHKISS,

Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

Capt. CARL SCHMITT,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 36.

Report of Lieut. Col. Frank Erdelmeyer, Thirty-second Indiana Infantry.

HDQRS. THIRTY-SECOND INDIANA VOLUNTEERS,
Camp near Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 7, 1863.

SIR: I respectfully submit to you the official report of the part taken by the Thirty-second Indiana Volunteers in the late battle at Murfreesborough and in the events of the days preceding.

The regiment left camp, near Mill Creek, on the morning of December 26, 1862, and marched to Nolensville.

On the 27th, the regiment advanced to Triune.

On the 28th, having the advance guard of the brigade, participated in a reconnaissance toward Shelbyville.

On the 29th, we left Triune, crossing over to within 4 miles of Murfreesborough.

No. 52.

*Report of Capt. Charles Houghtaling, Battery C, First Illinois Light Artillery.*BATTLE-FIELD, NEAR MURFREESBOROUGH,
January 6, 1863.

CAPTAIN: I would respectfully submit the following report of the part my company took in the action on the 30th and 31st ultimo:

As but little was done on the 30th, I will pass over it.

On the morning of the 31st, according to orders, we fell back toward the left, or rather changed front to the west, and my battery was placed in a belt of thick timber south of the pike, and was soon hotly engaged with the enemy's batteries, which cut us up severely. While the battle was raging, I called upon you for re-enforcements, which were promptly furnished. Being still unable to silence the rebel guns, and another battery being opened on me from the left, and being flanked by rebel infantry, I informed Colonel Roberts that unless I moved from that position I should lose my battery, as my horses were falling at every volley, and my men nearly half killed and wounded. He informed me a few minutes afterward that General Sheridan's orders were to hold that position at all hazards, and I did so until my ammunition was nearly expended, when I was ordered to change front and fire to the left, falling back across the pike, which I did, and three of the guns, being out of ammunition, were sent to the rear, while the others took a position and used the last round of canister on the enemy. Here the remainder of my horses were killed, and being flanked both on the right and left, and no possible chance to get the guns off by hand through the heavy cedar timber in the rear, I was forced to abandon them. All was done that could be, under the circumstances, to save them. Thus closed the part my company, as a company, took in the engagement. Lieutenant Wright, with some of the boys, joined your battery; Lieutenant Van Dyke and some more fell in with and joined the Twenty-sixth Pennsylvania Battery, Lieutenant Stevens commanding; some found the Board of Trade Battery, and others took muskets and fell into the ranks as infantry.

All, I believe, did their duty in their various positions, and all behaved with great coolness and gallantry while under my command.

Loss in killed, wounded, and missing, ———.* Total number horses lost, 95.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. HOUGHTALING,

Captain, Comdg. Company C, First Illinois Light Artillery.

Captain HESCOCK,

Chief of Artillery, 3d Div., Right Wing, 14th Army Corps.

No. 53.

*Report of Capt. Asahel K. Bush, Fourth Indiana Battery.*CAMP NEAR MURFREESBOROUGH, TENN.,
January 9, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part

* See p. 209.

taken by my command in front of Murfreesborough, Tenn., from and including December 30, 1862, to the morning of January 4, 1863:

On the morning of December 30, 1862, moved near the enemy's lines, and, by order of General Sheridan, opened fire on a rebel battery at 1,500 yards range, and drove it under cover. About 1 p. m. was moved across open fields near the woods occupied by the enemy. A rebel battery opened on us from the woods at about 600 yards range, when General Sill ordered us in position in the woods fronting them, and ordered me to "Silence that battery," which we did after a sharp contest of about two hours, at 450 yards range. We killed about half their horses, completely disabled one gun-carriage, killed 1 of their lieutenants and 12 men, wounded several others, and killed and wounded several of their infantry support, which lay near.

My loss in the contest was 1 sergeant and 3 privates killed, 3 privates wounded, 5 horses killed, two gun-carriage wheels disabled, and two limber-chests damaged.

After dark, by command of General Sill, took position about 300 yards to the right, in open ground, where we remained until the next morning (December 31), and about daylight were attacked by the enemy. We replied with canister at short range until General Sheridan's division was completely flanked, by General Davis' division retreating, and obliged to retire. We fixed prolonges and retired in rear of the brigade, firing canister.

Made another short stand at the first position of December 30, and fired canister from my howitzer and 6-pounder smooth-bores into the enemy in front, and with my rifles drove two of the enemy's pieces from position, which were firing on General Davis' retreating lines; lost one caisson in reaching this position, every horse on it being shot down by the enemy's musketry. Here the under-straps of one of my smooth-bore 6-pounders were broken by firing double charges of canister, and I sent the piece to the rear.

From the above position I retired and took position about 800 yards to the left, adjoining General Negley's division, near which point I remained until my ammunition was expended; then retired to the left. In crossing a dense cedar woods, near the Murfreesborough pike, the infantry were driven rapidly past us, and my two rear pieces (one James 6-pounder and one 6-pounder smooth-bore) were captured by the enemy, after killing all the horses on them, except one wheel-horse on one, and one wheel and two swing horses on the other, and the latter piece fast among the trees and the enemy within 40 yards of them. On reaching the pike, I moved a short distance to the rear and got a supply of ammunition, and reported myself to the front with three pieces for duty. By order of General Rosecrans, we went into park in front and on the left of the pike.

The next morning General Sheridan put us in position, where we remained until Sunday morning without further casualties.

On Saturday, January 3, I got the piece repaired and in position, which was disabled December 31.

Some field officer, on December 31, forced my forge into the train which started for Nashville, and it was captured and burned.

During the above engagement my officers behaved nobly. I can scarcely mention one in particular without doing injustice to the rest. I must, however, mention First Sergt. Willis H. Pettit, whose services in keeping my guns supplied with ammunition and various other duties were invaluable. Joseph E. De Wolf, clerk and private orderly, as usual, showed a clear head and unsurpassed courage, and was always

from the opposite woods, and Colonel Roberts ordered a skirmishing force to advance and feel the timber on our left. Companies A and B, Twenty-seventh Illinois, were thrown out under Major Schmitt, the balance of the regiment being held in reserve, its left resting on the pike.

About 8.30 a. m. Colonel Roberts ordered the Twenty-second, Forty-second, and Fifty-first to charge the enemy's columns, and gallantly led them in person. The Forty-second and Fifty-first charged in line, with the Twenty-second in rear of the Forty-second, at battalion distance. These regiments went forward at the double-quick, and cleared the wood in front of our lines, the enemy giving way before we reached him. The line was halted, and opened fire in the timber. After some ten minutes, the line on our right giving way, we were ordered to retire to the lane leading at nearly right angles with the pike, and take a new position.

Very soon the whole brigade was moved to the left and rear, and formed in the cedar woods on the pike, east of the hospital. Houghtaling's battery was posted so as to sweep the open ground and timber the brigade had lately occupied. The Forty-second and Twenty-second were thrown to the left and rear of the battery, and the Twenty-seventh and Fifty-first formed on the pike, fronting south. The whole command was soon hotly engaged with the enemy, advancing on the east and south. The Twenty-seventh changed front to rear on first company, and the Fifty-first moved by the right flank, so as to form an angle with the Twenty-seventh Illinois. Company K, Fifty-first Illinois, under Lieutenant Moody, was thrown out in advance of the battery to the east, to skirmish the woods, and remained there until driven in. Houghtaling's battery was worked with great spirit and vigor during the whole action; it, as well as the regiments of the brigade, was exposed to a cross-fire from rebel batteries situated at the brick-kiln, and at the point occupied by Houghtaling on the 30th, as well as a heavy fire of small-arms.

There the brigade met its chief loss; 400 were killed or wounded in two hours. Colonels Roberts and Harrington fell about 10.45 o'clock. At this time the ammunition of the battery and of the infantry was nearly exhausted. Being hard pressed by a superior force, and nearly surrounded, it was thought necessary to retire.

At about 11 o'clock I withdrew the Fifty-first in concert with the Twenty-seventh, under Major Schmitt, both regiments moving by the right flank in good order. Houghtaling's battery was left upon the field, after firing the last round of ammunition and losing more than half the horses; being outflanked on both sides, it was impossible to bring it off in its crippled condition. I was not informed of the fall of Colonels Roberts and Harrington until after the Twenty-second and Forty-second had moved. These regiments, after suffering a loss of half their numbers, retired toward the Nashville pike, striking it near the grounds held by General Palmer's division, and, being separated from the brigade, reported to him.

The Twenty-seventh and Fifty-first were the last regiments to leave the ground, the regiments of General Negley's command having already retired. As soon as I was informed that the command of the brigade devolved on me, I sent Captain Rose, of Colonel Roberts' staff, to report to General Sheridan for orders, and fell back through the timber toward the pike.

Not being able to find General Sheridan, I reported to General Davis, who ordered me to re-enforce Colonel Harker's brigade, then engaged with the enemy, who was endeavoring to turn our extreme right and get possession of the road. I took the Twenty-seventh and Fifty-first

in line of battle, just as our troops were falling back in some disorder, and, after delivering a volley or two, charged a rebel brigade of five regiments, routing them completely and taking some 200 prisoners. This was the final effort on the right. About 1 p. m. we stacked arms and supplied the men with ammunition, the Twenty-second and Forty-second joining soon after.

On the morning of January 1 we stood to arms at 3 o'clock, expecting an attack, and after daylight built a breastwork in front of the brigade line. In the afternoon a brigade of the enemy issued from the timber opposite our position and advanced on our line. As soon as they were in range, I opened with small-arms and shell, driving them back in disorder.

Observing that a part of them had skulked in the rocks, I sent out a strong line of skirmishers, under Lieutenant Hanback, of the Twenty-seventh Illinois, and captured 2 lieutenants and 117 men, mostly of the Third Confederate. The brigade occupied the same position on the 2d, 3d, and 4th of January, skirmishing more or less with the enemy every day.

The entire loss of the brigade is 3 commissioned officers killed, 12 wounded; 58 enlisted men killed, 328 wounded; 161 missing; making a total of 562.* This loss occurred on the 30th and 31st. I think there is a considerable number of wounded men in the hands of the enemy, who are now reckoned among the missing; but having no positive knowledge of their condition, we account for them in that way.

I cannot forbear to express the sorrow felt by the whole command at the loss of its senior officers, Colonels Roberts and Harrington. They had served with the brigade since last April, and had each been in command of it for a considerable time. Long service had made the command familiar with them, and inspired them with confidence in their judgment and skill. They fell in exactly the line of their duty, and each met a soldier's death, bravely.

L. P. BRADLEY,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Lieut. GEORGE LEE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Division.

No. 62.

Reports of Maj. Gen. George H. Thomas, U. S. Army, commanding Center.

HDQRS. (CENTER) FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 15, 1863.

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit to the major-general commanding the Department of the Cumberland the following report of the operations of that part of my command which was engaged in the battle of Stone's River, in front of Murfreesborough:

It is proper to state here that two brigades of Fry's division and Reynolds' entire division were detained near Gallatin and along the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, to watch the movements of the rebel leader Morgan, who had been, for a long time, on the watch for an op-

* But see revised statement, p. 209.

portunity to destroy the railroad. Rousseau's, Negley's, and Mitchell's divisions, and Walker's brigade, of Fry's division, were concentrated at Nashville, but Mitchell's division being required to garrison Nashville, my only available force was Rousseau's and Negley's divisions, and Walker's brigade, of Fry's division, about 13,395 effective men.

December 26, Negley's division, followed by Rousseau's division and Walker's brigade, marched by the Franklin pike to Brentwood, at that point taking the Wilson pike. Negley and Rousseau were to have encamped for the night at Owen's store.

On reaching the latter place, Negley, hearing heavy firing in the direction of Nolensville, left his train with a guard, to follow, and pushed forward with his troops to the support of Brig. Gen. J. C. Davis, commanding the advanced division of McCook's corps, Davis having become hotly engaged with the enemy posted in Nolensville, and in the pass through the hills south of that village. Rousseau encamped with his division at Owen's store; Walker with his brigade at Brentwood.

During the night a very heavy rain fell, making the cross-roads almost impassable, and it was not until night of the 27th that Rousseau reached Nolensville with his troops and train. Negley remained at Nolensville until 10 a. m. on the 27th, when, having brought his train across from Wilson's pike, he moved to the east, over an exceedingly rough by-road, to the right of Crittenden, at Stewartsborough, on the Murfreesborough pike. Walker, by my orders, retraced his steps from Brentwood, and crossed over to the Nolensville pike.

December 28, Negley remained in camp at Stewartsborough, bringing his train from the rear. Rousseau reached Stewartsborough on the night of the 28th. His train arrived early next day.

December 29, Negley's division crossed Stewart's Creek, 2 miles southwest and above the turnpike bridge, and marched in support of the head and right flank of Crittenden's corps, which moved by the Murfreesborough pike to a point within 2 miles of Murfreesborough. The enemy fell back before our advance, contesting the ground obstinately with their cavalry rear guard. Rousseau remained in camp at Stewartsborough, detaching Starkweather's brigade, with a section of artillery, to the Jefferson pike crossing of Stone's River, to observe the movements of the enemy in that direction. Walker reached Stewartsborough from the Nolensville pike about dark.

December 30, a cavalry force of the enemy, something over 400 strong, with two pieces of artillery, attacked Starkweather about 9 a. m., but was soon driven off. The enemy opened a brisk fire on Crittenden's advance, doing but little execution, however, about 7 a. m.

During the morning Negley's division was obliged to the right, and took up a position on the right of Palmer's division, of Crittenden's corps, and was then advanced through a dense cedar thicket, several hundred yards in width, to the Wilkinson Cross-Roads, driving the enemy's skirmishers steadily and with considerable loss. Our loss comparatively small.

About noon Sheridan's division, of McCook's corps, approached by the Wilkinson Cross-Roads, joined Negley's right, McCook's two other divisions coming up on Sheridan's right, thus forming a continuous line, the left resting on Stone's River, the right stretching in a westerly direction, and resting on high, wooded ground, a short distance to the south of the Wilkinson Cross-Roads, and, as has since been ascertained, nearly parallel with the enemy's intrenchments thrown up on the sloping land bordering the northwest bank of Stone's River. Rousseau's division (with the exception of Starkweather's brigade), being ordered

up from Stewartsborough, reached the position occupied by the army about 4 p. m., and bivouacked on the Murfreesborough pike in rear of the center.

During the night of the 30th I sent orders to Walker to take up a strong position near the turnpike bridge over Stewart's Creek, and defend the position against any attempts of the enemy's cavalry to destroy it. Rousseau was ordered to move by 6 a. m. on the 31st to a position in rear of Negley. This position placed his division with its left on the Murfreesborough pike, and its right extending into the cedar thicket through which Negley had marched on the 30th. In front of Negley's position, bordering a large open field, reaching to the Murfreesborough pike, a heavy growth of timber extended in a southerly direction toward the river. Across the field, running in an easterly direction, the enemy had thrown up rifle-pits at intervals, from the timber to the river bank, to the east side of the turnpike. Along this line of intrenchments, on an eminence about 800 yards from Negley's position, and nearly in front of his left, some cannon had been placed, affording the enemy great advantage in covering an attack on our center. However, Palmer, Negley, and Sheridan held the position their troops had so manfully won the morning of the 30th against every attempt to drive them back, and remained in line of battle during the night.

December 31, between 6 and 7 a. m., the enemy, having massed a heavy force on McCook's right during the night of the 30th, attacked and drove it back, pushing his division in pursuit *en échelon*, and in supporting distance, until he had gained sufficient ground to our rear to wheel his masses to the right and throw them upon the right flank of the center, at the same moment attacking Negley and Palmer in front with a greatly superior force. To counteract this movement, I had ordered Rousseau to place two brigades, with a battery, to the right and rear of Sheridan's division, facing toward the west, so as to support Sheridan, should he be able to hold his ground, or to cover him, should he be compelled to fall back.

About 11 o'clock General Sheridan reported to me that his ammunition was entirely out, and he would be compelled to fall back to get more. As it became necessary for General Sheridan to fall back, the enemy pressed on still farther to our rear, and soon took up a position which gave them a concentrated cross-fire of musketry and cannon on Negley's and Rousseau's troops at short range. This compelled me to fall back out of the cedar woods, and take up a line along a depression in the open ground, within good musket-range of the edge of the woods, while the artillery was retired to the high ground to the right of the turnpike. From this last position we were enabled to drive back the enemy, cover the formation of our troops, and secure the center on the high ground. In the execution of this last movement, the regular brigade, under Lieutenant-Colonel Shepherd, Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, came under a most murderous fire, losing 22 officers and 508 men in killed and wounded, but, with the co-operation of Scribner's and Beatty's brigades and Guenther's and Loomis' batteries, gallantly held its ground against overwhelming odds. The center having succeeded in driving back the enemy from its front, and our artillery concentrating its fire on the cedar thicket on our right, drove him back far under cover, from which, though repeatedly attempting it, he could not make any advance.

January 1, 1863, repeated attempts were made by the enemy to advance on my position during the morning, but they were driven back before emerging from the woods. Colonel Starkweather's brigade of Rousseau's division and Walker's brigade of Fry's division having re-

enforced us during the night, took post on the right of Rousseau and left of Sheridan, and bore their share in repelling the attempts of the enemy on the morning of the 1st instant.

For the details of the most valuable service rendered by these two brigades on December 30 and 31, 1862, and January 1, 2, and 3, 1863, I refer you to their reports. In this connection I also refer you to the report of Lieutenant-Colonel Parkhurst, commanding Ninth Michigan Infantry (on provost duty at my headquarters), for the details of most valuable services rendered by his command on December 31 and January 1 and 2. Negley's division was ordered early in the day to the support of McCook's right, and in which position it remained during the night.

January 2, about 7 a. m., the enemy opened a direct and cross fire from his batteries in our front, and from a position on the east bank of Stone's River to our left and front, at the same time making a strong demonstration with infantry, resulting, however, in no serious attack. Our artillery (Loomis', Guenther's, Stokes', and another battery, the commander's name I cannot now recall) soon drove back their infantry. Negley was withdrawn from the extreme right and placed in reserve behind Crittenden's right.

About 4 p. m. a division of Crittenden's corps, which had crossed Stone's River to reconnoiter, was attacked by an overwhelming force of the enemy, and, after a gallant resistance, compelled to fall back. The movements of the enemy having been observed and reported by some of my troops in the center, I sent orders to Negley to advance to the support of Crittenden's troops, should they want help. This order was obeyed in most gallant style, and resulted in the complete annihilation of the Twenty-sixth Tennessee (rebel) Regiment and the capture of their flag; also in the capture of a battery, which the enemy had been forced to abandon at the point of the bayonet. (See Negley's report.)

January 3, soon after daylight, the Forty-second Indiana, on picket in a clump of woods about 800 yards in front of our lines, was attacked by a brigade of the enemy, evidently by superior numbers, and driven in with considerable loss. Lieutenant-Colonel Shanklin, commanding the regiment, was surrounded and taken prisoner while gallantly endeavoring to draw off his men from under the fire of such superior numbers. From this woods the enemy's sharpshooters continued to fire occasionally during the day on our pickets.

About 6 p. m. two regiments from Col. John Beatty's brigade, Rousseau's division, co-operating with two regiments of Spears' brigade, of Negley's division, covered by the skillful and well-directed fire of Guenther's Fifth U. S. Artillery and Loomis' First Michigan Batteries, advanced on the woods and drove the enemy not only from their cover, but from their intrenchments, a short distance beyond.

For the details of this gallant night attack I refer you to the reports of Brigadier-General Spears, commanding Third Brigade of Negley's division, and Col. John Beatty, commanding Second Brigade of Rousseau's division. The enemy having retreated during the night of the 3d, our troops were occupied during the morning of the 4th in burying the dead left on the field. In the afternoon one brigade of Negley's division was advanced to the crossing of Stone's River, with a brigade of Rousseau's division in supporting distance, in reserve.

January 5, my entire command, preceded by Stanley's cavalry, marched into Murfreesborough and took up the position which we now hold. The enemy's rear guard of cavalry was overtaken on the Shelbyville and Manchester roads, about 5 miles from Murfreesborough, and, after sharp skirmishing for two or three hours, was driven from our immediate front.

The conduct of my command from the time the army left Nashville to its entry into Murfreesborough is deserving of the highest praise, both for their patient endurance of the fatigues and discomforts of a five days' battle, and for the manly spirit exhibited by them in the various phases in this memorable contest. I refer you to the detailed reports of the division and brigade commanders, forwarded herewith, for special mention of those officers and men of their commands whose conduct they thought worthy of particular notice.

All the members of my staff, Maj. G. E. Flynt, assistant adjutant-general; Lieut. Col. A. Von Schrader, Seventy-fourth Ohio, acting inspector-general; Capt. O. A. Mack, Thirteenth U. S. Infantry, acting chief commissary, and Capt. A. J. Mackay, chief quartermaster, were actively employed in carrying my orders to various parts of my command and in the execution of the appropriate duties of their office. Capt. O. A. Mack was dangerously wounded in the right hip and abdomen while conveying orders from me to Major-General Rousseau.

The officers of the signal corps attached to my headquarters did excellent service in their appropriate sphere, when possible, and as aides-de-camp, carrying orders. My escort, composed of a select detail from the First Ohio Cavalry, commanded by First Lieut. J. D. Barker, of the same regiment, who have been on duty with me for nearly a year, deserve commendation for the faithful performance of their appropriate duties. Private Guiteau was killed by a cannon-shot on the morning of January 2. Surg. G. D. Beebe, medical director, deserves special mention for his efficient arrangements for moving the wounded from the field and giving them immediate attention.

Annexed hereto is a consolidated return of the casualties of my command. The details will be seen in the accompanying reports of division and brigade commanders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. H. THOMAS,

Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

Maj. C. GODDARD,

Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

*Consolidated report of casualties of the Center, Fourteenth Army Corps, in the five days' battle before Murfreesborough, Tenn., commencing December 31, 1862, and ending January 4, 1863.**

	In action.				Lost in action.									
	Commissioned officers.	Enlisted men.	Horses.	Guns (artillery).	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.			Guns.		
					Commissioned.	Enlisted.	Commissioned.	Enlisted.	Commissioned.	Enlisted.	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Lost.	Disabled.
First Division, Major-General Rousseau.	303	5,883	18	8	171	43	908	3	324	8	5	.....	.....	.....
Second Division, Brigadier-General Negley.	237	4,632	257	13	11	167	47	704	1	308	62	24	9	6
First Brigade, Third Division, Col. M. B. Walker.	97	2,248	.....	6	.....	4	19	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	637	12,758	257	37	19	338	94	1,626	4	633	70	29	9	6

* But see revised statement, pp. 209-211.

these two regiments maintained their ground, completely checking the advance of the enemy's column. Here the Thirty-eighth Indiana lost their brave captain, J. E. Fouts, besides nearly one-third their number in killed and wounded.

Lieut. Col. D. F. Griffin and Major Glover both had their horses shot under them, and their clothing perforated by balls. The Tenth Wisconsin nobly vied with their comrades on the right, and I am convinced that both regiments would have suffered extermination rather than have yielded their ground without orders. But the order came, and we fell back, and formed on the pike fronting the woods, but the enemy did not venture to follow us farther than the skirts of the timber.

Having reformed my brigade, I soon after advanced my right to the woods from which we had just emerged, deploying skirmishers from the Ninety-fourth Ohio through the neck of the timber, with my left resting on the pike. Here we remained the rest of the day under the fire of the enemy's sharpshooters, and ever and anon the shot and shell from their batteries on our left fell among us. A ball from the former struck Colonel Frizell on the shoulder, so wounding him that he was borne from the field on which he had nobly performed his duty.

At 4 o'clock on the morning of January 1, you ordered me to take my command back to a point on the pike, near the place we occupied before the battle, in order that they might build fires, and warm themselves, and get something to eat.

Upon receiving your caution to protect myself from an attack on the left, and from your allusion to a ford in that direction, I ordered Lieut. Alexander Martin, assistant inspector-general on my staff, and Lieut. M. Allen, topographical engineers, to reconnoiter the position. Upon their reporting the feasibility of the crossing, I ordered Lieutenant Martin to conduct the Second Ohio, Major McCook, to the position. Soon after, firing was heard in this direction, and a stampede occurred among the wagons and hospitals. I ordered the Tenth Wisconsin to support the Second Ohio, and placed them behind the embankment of the railroad. These dispositions had scarcely been made when your order came for me to hurry to the front again with my command. Having obeyed this order, and after some maneuvering, we were placed in position, the Thirty-third Ohio extending across the neck of woods into which my right threw out skirmishers the evening before, with a battery on the right and left, commanding the fields on either side of the woods. On the right of the Thirty-third Ohio came the Ninety-fourth Ohio and Thirty-eighth Indiana in the edge of the undergrowth on the crest of the slope from the field west of the Nashville pike. On the right of the Thirty-eighth Indiana was another battery. The Tenth Wisconsin and Second Ohio were held in reserve, in order to re-enforce any part of the line that was menaced. This position was maintained without material change during the subsequent days of the fight. Our skirmishers were kept out during the time, and employed in discovering and dislodging the sharpshooters, who, during the hours of daylight, almost continually annoyed us. I cannot too highly praise Captain Ellis, commanding Thirty-third Ohio, for the vigilance of himself and men in their exposed position in the woods. At times the enemy from the woods below would essay to advance, when every man would be at his post, and often the batteries would open upon them. While here Captain Ellis had his horse shot under him. Breastworks of logs and rocks had been constructed to protect the line; also a few rifle-pits dug.

On the evening of the 2d, when the enemy so vigorously attacked our left, the moving of their forces in that direction could be seen from my position, which fact was promptly reported. I caused my skirmishers

to advance and take precaution against demonstration upon my position. The attempt was made just before dark, the enemy forming in the edge of the woods in our front, where Captain Cox's Tenth Indiana Battery, on the right of the Thirty-third Ohio, opened fire upon them, driving them back.

I deem it improper to close this report without commending in high terms the manner in which my command bore the hardships of this terrible conflict. They suffered from cold, rain, fatigue, and hunger without a murmur. These attributes, when added to their bravery, make soldiers of which the country may be proud. I also feel it my duty to praise the courage and efficiency of my staff—Lieutenant Fitzwilliam, acting assistant adjutant-general and aide-de-camp; Lieutenant Martin, inspector, who was wounded above the knee by a shell; Lieut. George H. Hollister, acting assistant commissary of subsistence, missing, after displaying great gallantry in his transmission of your orders to me; Lieut. Mundy Allen, topographical engineer—all of whom have endeared themselves to me by their prompt and intelligent performance of their appropriate duties. I would, in an especial manner, mention the name of one of my orderlies, Josiah F. Mitchell, Company B, Thirty-third Ohio Volunteers, who displayed marked courage and intelligence.

I went into the fight with 1,646 officers and men, minus two companies Thirty-third Ohio, under Major Ely, and Tenth Wisconsin, who were detached to guard the train.

My losses are:

Thirty-eighth Indiana.—Killed: Capt. J. E. Fouts and 14 enlisted men. Wounded: Lieuts. T. S. W. Hawkins, M. T. Davis, and 84 enlisted men. Missing (wounded), 3.

Thirty-third Ohio.—Killed, 2; wounded, 19; missing, 4.

Second Ohio.—Killed: Lieut. Col. John Kell and 9 enlisted men. Wounded: Captains Hazlett and Maxwell, Lieutenant Van Horn, and 29 enlisted men. Missing, 3.

Ninety-fourth Ohio.—Killed, 2. Wounded: Colonel Frizell, Captain Steel, and 25 enlisted men. Missing, 29.

Tenth Wisconsin.—Killed, 3. Wounded: Capt. J. W. Roby and 15 enlisted men. Missing, 6.

Total killed, 32; wounded, 180; missing, 45.*

Your obedient servant,

B. F. SCRIBNER,

*Colonel Thirty-eighth Indiana Vols., Comdg. First Brigade,
First Division, Department of the Cumberland.*

Capt. M. C. TAYLOR,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 66.

Report of Lieut. Col. Daniel F. Griffin, Thirty-eighth Indiana Infantry.

HDQRS. THIRTY-EIGHTH INDIANA VOLUNTEERS,
On the Field, in front of Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 4, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to report the following as the part taken by my command in the action of December 31, in front of Murfreesborough, and subsequent operations in the field since that date:

At daylight on the morning of December 31, the command, occupying

* But see revised statement, p. 211.

the center of your brigade, moved to the front, on the Nashville turnpike, and about 8 a. m. moved, through a dense cedar forest, toward the right wing of the army, which was then hotly engaged by the enemy. After maneuvering for about an hour, we were ordered to retire, left in front, through the same forest, to near the position first occupied, on the right of the pike, in the timber. Here the enemy was discovered in strong force on our right and rear, charging toward the turnpike. The command was, by your order, immediately faced by the rear rank, and moved down on the flank of the enemy, who was now retiring before a column of our troops moving from the pike.

In this movement the Ninety-fourth Ohio was on our right and the Tenth Wisconsin was on our left. Company H, Captain Poindexter commanding, and Company B, First Lieutenant Lenau commanding, were deployed forward as skirmishers, moving steadily on the skirmishers of the enemy, capturing 6 of them, who were sent to the rear. Continuing our movements about 600 yards, we met the left of General Negley's command, which was now retiring before a heavy column of the enemy, and moved into position to their support. The left of this command having passed to the rear through our ranks, their center came into position on our right, and some 60 yards to the front. By your command the battalion was wheeled to the left, and moved forward with our left, now our right, joining their line. Before we were fairly in position, the enemy opened a heavy fire, and the troops on our right fell back, leaving the left of the battalion, now the right, exposed. I then moved the line by the flank, striving to continue the connection. The enemy now opening on our line, we at once faced to the front, and kept up a continuous fire for the space of twenty minutes, checking the enemy's advance, and holding him in check until your orders to retire to the pike were received. This was done in order, forming there on the right of the Second Ohio Volunteers. The enemy now appearing in force on the front, by your orders we changed front forward on left company, and advanced into the corn-field in front of the **Chicago Board of Trade Battery**. Lying down in this position, we remained, from 2 p. m. until dark, exposed to the fire of the enemy from the woods in front, awaiting their expected advance. Night closing the engagement, we lay in this position, with pickets advanced, until daylight, when we were relieved, and retired to the woods in our rear.

At 7.30 o'clock the engagement again opened on the front, when, by your orders, we moved forward on the double-quick, and were assigned to position on the right, to support Guenther's battery. In this position we have remained to present date, exposed to the fire of the enemy's sharpshooters and from their batteries on the front.

In the engagement of December 31, the command lost, in killed, Capt. James E. Fouts and 13 men; wounded and missing, supposed to be in the enemy's hospital, 3 men; wounded and in our hospital, Second Lieut. M. T. Davis, Company C; Second Lieut. Thomas S. W. Hawkins, Company I, and 81 men. Total killed, 14; wounded 86.* For list of names of killed and wounded, I respectfully refer you to accompanying report.

I cannot close without commending, for their coolness and bravery on the field, each officer and soldier of my command engaged during the five days. Though suffering at times severely from cold, hunger, rain, and fatigue, yet not a murmur was heard nor a duty flinched from. To Maj. J. B. Glover I am indebted for every support. In command of the skirmishers, and during the hottest of the fight, he was ever at his post. His horse received two wounds, himself escaping. My adjutant, George

* But see revised statement, p. 210.

H. Devol, was ever on the alert, and rendered much valuable assistance. Of our chaplain, Rev. L. E. Carson, too much cannot be said. In his attention and devotion to the wounded he was untiring, making this his especial duty. We have the satisfaction of knowing that all were cared for properly and efficiently.

In the death of Captain Fouts we lament the loss of a brave officer, a true patriot, and a warm friend.

Very respectfully,

D. F. GRIFFIN,

Lieutenant-Colonel, Comdg. Thirty-eighth Regt. Indiana Vols.

GEORGE H. DEVOL,

Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Brig., First Div., Center.

No. 67.

Report of Maj. Anson G. McCook, Second Ohio Infantry.

CAMP AT MURFREESBOROUGH, TENN.,

January 7, 1863.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report, briefly, the part taken by the Second Regiment Ohio Volunteers in the action of December 31, 1862, and the following days.

On the morning of the 31st, after being ordered into the woods on our right center, with the balance of the brigade, and before being engaged, Lieutenant-Colonel Kell, then in command of the regiment, was ordered by Captain McDowell, assistant adjutant-general on Major-General Rousseau's staff, in person, to leave the position assigned us in the woods, and move to the support of Captain Guenther's battery (H), [Fifth] United States Artillery, then stationed on the left of the main Murfreesborough turnpike. He did so without, I believe, reporting to you, as the exigency of the case would not admit of it. The regiment was formed on the flank of the battery, and, in conjunction with it, successfully repulsed the efforts of a brigade to capture it, killing and wounding many of the enemy, and capturing about 30 prisoners and a stand of colors belonging to the Thirtieth Regiment Arkansas Volunteer Infantry. At this time you made your appearance from the woods with the balance of the brigade, and from that time until we occupied this place we were under your eye.

Our loss was 11 officers and men killed and 34 officers and men wounded; among the former, Lieut. Col. John Kell, commanding the regiment, and First Lieut. Richard S. Chambers, Company F; among the latter, First Lieut. Lafayette Van Horn, Company I, mortally, and Captains Maxwell and Hazlett severely. I cannot refrain from expressing my regret at the loss of Lieutenant-Colonel Kell and Lieutenant Chambers, particularly the former. Brave, competent, and energetic, he had proven himself on several occasions well qualified for the position he held. His death is greatly to be deplored, and his loss will be severely felt by the regiment.

With very few exceptions, the regiment behaved well, and at some future time I will particularly recommend deserving men for promotion.

I have the honor to be,

A. G. MCCOOK,

Major Second Ohio Volunteers, Commanding.

Col. B. F. SCRIBNER,

Commanding Ninth Brigade.

Stewart's Creek, to protect a provision train which was threatened by the enemy. After proceeding about 4 miles up the road, we were ordered to the right-about, and double-quickened to the center of the line of battle.

On January 2, at daybreak, we took our position on the hill by the railroad, in front of the cedars, which we held during the day and throughout the night.

The next day, the 3d, we commenced intrenching the front and center, under cover of our skirmishers, and that night our breastworks, being completed, were occupied and held by us until after the enemy had left our front, which fact was reported by me to the colonel commanding the brigade shortly after sunrise on the 4th instant.

The battalion lost 1 commissioned officer killed (the major commanding); enlisted men, 6 killed, 55 wounded, and 7 missing. The greater part of the latter known to be in the hands of the enemy.

Twenty-two of the enemy fell, on the 31st, into our hands, and were turned over to an escort of cavalry, by order of Lieut. H. Millard, of General Rousseau's staff, by Lieutenant Stansbury.

The following officers participated: First Lieutenants Andrews, Stansbury, and Jones; Second Lieutenants Wagoner, Lowe, Curtis, Miller, Johnson, and Carpenter.

The conduct of the officers and men throughout the five days' battle was excellent, the battalion taking part and sharing with the brigade in all its hardships, deprivations, and arduous duties in its movements over the entire field, at one time supporting the right of General McCook's corps, at another assisting General Crittenden's, and on the last day and night intrenching and holding the center of our own division.

I take pleasure in mentioning the energy and efficiency displayed by Dr. Henderson, of this battalion, and Dr. Lindsly, of the Eighteenth Infantry, acting brigade surgeon, in the care and treatment of our wounded, all of whom, I am credibly informed, are well cared for and in comfortable hospitals.

I inclose herewith a consolidated list of the killed, wounded, and missing of the battalion during the five days' battle; also copies of the reports, from the commandant of companies, of casualties,* &c.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES B. MULLIGAN,

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

Lieut. ROBERT SUTHERLAND,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Brigade of Regulars.

No. 78.

Report of Brig. Gen. James S. Negley, U. S. Army, commanding Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH DIVISION,
Camp near Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 8, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the troops of my command in the engagements with the enemy on Stone's River:

On Tuesday morning, December 30, 1862, the Eighth Division, composed of the Seventh and Twenty-ninth Brigades, Schultz's, Marshall's,

* Embodied in revised statement, p. 210.

and Nell's batteries, was posted on the rolling slopes of the west bank of Stone's River, in advance, but joining the extreme right of General Crittenden's line and the left of General McCook's.

In the rear and on the right was a dense cedar woods, with a broken rocky surface. From our position several roads were cut through the woods in our rear, by which to bring up the artillery and ammunition trains. In front a heavy growth of oak timber extended toward the river, which was about a mile distant. A narrow thicket crossed our left diagonally, and skirted the base of a cultivated slope, which expanded to the width of a mile as it approached the Nashville pike. This slope afforded the enemy his most commanding position (in the center), on the crest of which his rifle-pits extended, with intervals, from the oak timber immediately in my front to the Nashville pike, with a battery of four Napoleon and two iron guns placed in position near the woods, and about 800 yards from my position. Behind this timber, on the river bank, the enemy massed his columns for the movements of the next day. Their skirmishers were driven from our immediate front after a sharp contest, in which the Nineteenth Illinois and Seventy-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers displayed admirable efficiency. The position of my command was held under a heavy fire until darkness terminated the skirmishing in our front, by which time we had inflicted considerable loss upon the enemy.

In the mean time General Sheridan's division came up and formed line of battle, his left resting on my right, and began to advance, driving the enemy until he had passed the center of my right brigade. While General Sheridan was in this position, I changed my front slightly, bearing it more to the left, to avoid masking a portion of Sheridan's command. The troops remained in this position, and in order of battle, all night, cheerfully enduring the rain and cold, awaiting the morrow's sun to renew the contest.

Early the next morning, and before the heavy fog had drifted away from our front, the enemy in strong force attacked and surprised General McCook's right, commencing a general action, which increased in intensity toward his left. Sheridan's division stood its ground manfully, supported by the Eighth Division, repulsing and driving the enemy at every advance. The enemy still gained ground on General McCook's right, and succeeded in placing several batteries in position, which covered my right. From these and the battery on my left, which now opened, the troops were exposed to a converging fire, which was most destructive. Houghtaling's, Schultz's, Marshall's, Bush's, and Nell's batteries were all ordered into action in my front, pouring destructive volleys of grape and shell into the advancing columns of the enemy, mowing him down like swaths of grain. For four hours the Eighth Division, with a portion of Sheridan's and Palmer's divisions, maintained their position amid a murderous storm of lead and iron, strewing the ground with their heroic dead. The enemy, maddened to desperation by the determined resistance, still pressed forward fresh troops, concentrating and forming them in a concentric line on either flank.

By 11 o'clock Sheridan's men, with their ammunition exhausted, were falling back. General Rousseau's reserve and General Palmer's division had retired in rear of the cedars to form a new line. The artillery ammunition was expended; that of the infantry reduced to a few rounds; the artillery horses were nearly all killed or wounded; my ammunition train had been sent back to avoid capture; a heavy column of

the enemy was marching directly to our rear through the cedars; communication with Generals Rosecrans or Thomas was entirely cut off, and it was manifestly impossible for my command to hold the position without eventually making a hopeless, fruitless sacrifice of the whole division. To retire was but to cut our way through the ranks of the enemy. The order was given and manfully executed, driving back the enemy in front and checking his approaching column in our rear.

All the regiments in my command distinguished themselves for their coolness and daring, frequently halting and charging the enemy under a withering fire of musketry. On approaching General Rousseau's line, the battalion of regulars, under command of Major King, at my request gallantly charged forward to our assistance, sustaining a severe loss in officers and men in the effort. Colonels Stanley and Miller now promptly reformed their brigades with the remaining portions of the batteries, and took position on the new line, as designated by Major-General Thomas. Shortly afterward the Twenty-ninth Brigade was ordered to the left to repel an attack from the enemy's cavalry on the trains. The troops remained in line all night and the next day in order of battle until noon, when the division was ordered to the right of General McCook's line, in expectation of an attack upon his front.

The next day, January 2, at 1 p. m., my command was ordered to the support of General Crittenden on the left, and took position in the rear of the batteries on the west bank of Stone's River. About 3 p. m. a strong force of the enemy, with artillery, advanced rapidly upon General Van Cleve's division, which, after sustaining a severe fire for twenty or thirty minutes, fell back in considerable disorder, the enemy pressing vigorously forward to the river bank. At this important moment the Eighth Division was ordered to advance, which it did promptly, the men crossing the river and charging up the steep bank with unflinching bravery.

The Twenty-first, Eighteenth, Sixty-ninth, and Seventy-fourth Ohio, Nineteenth Illinois, Eleventh Michigan, Thirty-seventh Indiana, and Seventy-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers displayed their usual promptness and gallantry.

Four pieces of artillery and a stand of colors, belonging to the Twenty-sixth (rebel) Tennessee, were captured at the point of the bayonet, and a large number of prisoners, the enemy retreating in disorder.

It is proper to mention here that the artillery practice of Schultz's, Mendenhall's, Standart's, Nell's, Marshall's, and Stokes' batteries, which were acting temporarily under my orders in this engagement, was highly satisfactory, giving the enemy great tribulation. The promptness displayed by Captain Stokes in bringing his battery into action, by my orders, and the efficient manner in which it was served, affords additional evidence of his marked ability and bravery as an officer and patriot. In the same connection I feel permitted to speak in complimentary terms of the gallant Morton and his Pioneer Brigade, which marched forward under a scathing fire to the support of my division.

The enemy having fallen back to their intrenchments, my division recrossed the river and resumed its former position.

On the evening of the 4th, the Twenty-ninth Brigade was moved forward to the north bank of Stone's River, near the railroad, as an advance force. On the same day General Spears' First Tennessee Brigade was assigned to the Eighth Division. This brigade distinguished itself on the evening of the 3d, in a desperate charge on the enemy, a report of which is included in General Spears' report, annexed.

On the morning of the 5th I was ordered to take command of the advance and pursue the enemy toward Murfreesborough.

By 9 a. m. the Eighth Division, Colonel Walker's brigade, Pioneer Brigade, and General Stanley's cavalry force had crossed the river and taken possession of Murfreesborough without having met any resistance, the rear guard of the enemy retreating on the Manchester and Shelbyville roads, our cavalry pursuing, supported by the Twenty-ninth Brigade, on the Shelbyville pike, and by Colonel Byrd's First East Tennessee Regiment, on the Manchester pike.

The rear guard of the enemy (three regiments of cavalry and one battery) was overtaken on the Manchester pike, 5 miles from Murfreesborough. Colonel Byrd fearlessly charged this unequal force of the enemy, driving him from his position, with a loss of 4 killed and 12 wounded; enemy's loss not ascertained.

Our army marched quietly into Murfreesborough, the chosen position of the enemy, which he was forced to abandon after a series of desperate engagements.

The joyful hopes of traitors have been crushed, treason receiving another fatal blow.

My command enthusiastically join me in expression of admiration of the official conduct of Generals Rosecrans and Thomas. During the most eventful periods of the engagements their presence was at the point of danger, aiding with their counsels and animating the troops by their personal bravery and cool determination.

I refer to my command with feelings of national pride for the living and personal sorrow for the dead. Without a murmur they made forced marches over almost impassable roads, through drenching winter rains, without a change of clothing or blankets, deprived of sleep or repose, constantly on duty for eleven days, living three days on a pint of flour and parched corn. Ever vigilant, always ready, sacrificing their lives with a contempt of peril, displaying the coolness, determination, and high discipline of veterans, they are entitled to our country's gratitude. Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Tennessee may proudly inscribe upon their scrolls of fame the names of the Seventy-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Eighteenth, Twenty-first, Sixty-ninth, and Seventy-fourth Ohio, Schultz's and Marshall's batteries (Ohio), the Eleventh Michigan, Nineteenth Illinois, Thirty-seventh Indiana, Nell's section, Kentucky battery, and Spears' East Tennessee Brigade.

I respectfully refer to the reports of General Spears, Colonels Miller and Stanley, which I approve and append hereto, for a detailed account of the part taken by each portion of the command, and for special reference to the meritorious conduct of individuals in their respective commands. In addition to which I make honorable mention of the bravery and efficient services rendered by the following-named officers and men, for whom I earnestly request promotion:

Brigadier-General Spears, commanding East Tennessee Brigade; Col. T. R. Stanley, Eighteenth Ohio Volunteers, commanding Twenty-ninth Brigade; Col. John F. Miller, Twenty-ninth Indiana Volunteers, commanding Seventh Brigade; Capt. James St. C. Morton, commanding Pioneer Brigade; Capt. James H. Stokes, commanding Chicago Battery; Maj. John H. King, commanding Fifteenth U. S. Infantry; Captain Bush, commanding Fourth Indiana Battery; Capt. W. E. Standart, commanding Ohio battery; Capt. James A. Lowrie, assistant adjutant-general, Eighth Division; Lieut. Frederick H. Kennedy, aide-de-camp;

Capt. Charles T. Wing, assistant quartermaster; Maj. F. H. Gross, medical director; Capt. James R. Hayden, ordnance officer; Lieutenants W. W. Barker, aide-de-camp; Robert H. Cochran, provost-marshal; Thomas Riddle, acting assistant commissary of subsistence; Charles C. Cook, acting aide-de-camp; W. D. Ingraham, topographical engineer; Capt. Frederick Schultz, Lieuts. Joseph Hein, Battery M, First Ohio Artillery; Alexander Marshall, John Crable, Robert D. Whittlesey, Battery G, First Ohio Artillery; A. A. Ellsworth, W. H. Spence, Nell's section, Kentucky Artillery; H. Terry, Third Ohio Cavalry; Sergt. H. B. Fletcher, Company K, Nineteenth Illinois Volunteers; Corpl. R. G. Rice, Company K, First Wisconsin Volunteers; Private James A. Sangston, Company C, Seventy-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers; Sergt. Charles Rambour, Company K, Seventy-fourth Ohio Volunteers, and Private William Longwell, orderly, Seventh Pennsylvania Cavalry; Sergt. George C. Lee, Corpl. E. H. Dougherty, and Privates Henry Zimmerman, Henry Schwenk, John Higgins, Leon Starr, Daniel Walker, John D. McCorkle, Abraham Kepperly, George Gillen, and John Cunningham, of the escort.

The following is an approximate report of the casualties* of my command during the battles before Murfreesborough, Tenn., December 30 and 31, 1862, and January 2 and 3, 1863:

Command.	Went into action.				Lost in action.										
	Commissioned officers.	Enlisted men.	Horses.	Guns.	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.		Horses.		Guns.		
					Commissioned.	Enlisted.	Commissioned.	Enlisted.	Commissioned.	Enlisted.	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Lost.	Disabled.
SECOND DIVISION, CENTER, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS.															
First East Tenn. Brigade...	66	734	8	.....	3	1	22	.....	94	5	1	.....	.....	.....
Twenty-ninth Brigade.....	93	1,719	37	.....	8	77	25	259	.....	34	3	5	.....	.....
Seventh Brigade.....	71	1,948	.....	.....	3	79	20	415	1	193	.....	.....	.....	.....
Infantry	230	4,401	45	.....	11	159	46	696	1	187	5	4	5	.....
Schultz's battery.....	2	75	56	4	.....	1	1	.....	1	5	4	.....	1	.....
Marshall's battery.....	3	110	116	6	.....	5	5	.....	14	34	12	.....	4	.....
Nell's battery.....	2	47	40	3	.....	1	3	.....	6	18	6	4	1	1
Artillery	7	232	212	13	7	1	8	21	57	22	4	6	1
Total.....	237	4,633	257	13	11	166	47	704	1	208	62	26	9	6	1

My command captured from the enemy upward of 400 prisoners, four brass pieces of field artillery, and one stand of regimental colors.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAS. S. NEGLEY,
Brigadier-General.

Maj. GEORGE E. FLYNT,
Chief of Staff.

* But see revised statement, p. 211.

No. 79.

Report of Lieut. Alban A. Ellsworth, Hewett's (Kentucky) battery.

HDQRS. HEWETT'S BATTERY, KENTUCKY VOL. ARTY.,
Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 12, 1863.

SIR: In obedience to orders received from Headquarters Seventh Brigade, Eighth Division, Fourteenth Army Corps, I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by Hewett's battery, Kentucky Volunteer Artillery, in the recent engagement before Murfreesborough, Tenn.:

On the evening of December 29, 1862, in obedience to orders from General Negley, I placed the battery in position near the old toll-gate, and on the right of Battery G, First Ohio Volunteer Artillery, commanded by Lieutenant Marshall.

Early on the morning of the 30th, I received orders from Colonel Miller to move about three-fourths of a mile to the right and front, through a dense cedar thicket, and over a rough and newly made road. Here I remained partly under cover of the cedars until about 10 a. m., when I received orders from General Negley to move a short distance to the left and front, taking a position fronting an open field, where the enemy had a battery of four guns bearing on us. During the day fired about 50 rounds of shell and solid shot at his battery and intrenchments without receiving any reply. As night approached, withdrew the battery and placed it under cover of the wood, where we remained during the night.

Early in the morning of the 31st, received orders from Colonel Miller to bring my command in position on the left, and near an old log-house, supported on my right and front by the Twenty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry, where I remained without further orders for about fifteen minutes, when, observing the enemy in large column marching on a battery and some infantry stationed about 300 yards to my left, I opened an oblique fire on him, and soon discovered him retiring to his intrenchments, where I kept up a brisk and well-directed fire, receiving, at the same time, a heavy fire from his artillery for about fifteen or twenty minutes, when a cessation occurred.

I soon after noticed a heavy mass of his infantry moving on our support to my right and front, accompanied by a section of artillery, which was brought into position about 500 yards to my right and front; also a section placed to my left and front, at about the same distance. Here we were subject to a heavy cross-fire of canister. I immediately ordered a return fire of canister, double-shot, firing as rapidly as possible for about twenty minutes, doing good execution. The enemy was soon seen retiring, and I ordered the use of shell to follow his retreat, briskly kept up for about fifteen minutes, when the enemy commenced a well-directed fire from his artillery direct upon my command. After shelling him rapidly for about three-fourths of an hour, one of my guns (a small rifled gun) was disabled. I continued shelling as rapidly as possible for some time after, and finding my horses were fast being crippled by the shells continually exploding in our midst, I ordered a change of position of the battery to the left, that I might break the range of his artillery, bearing heavily upon us.

While my order was being executed, I noticed that our infantry and artillery were retiring, at the same time that a heavy fire was being poured into our right, and almost into our rear. Receiving no orders to retire, made the change of position of the battery to the left, and opened fire on the enemy, now fast approaching; but I soon found it

impossible to do more without losing the whole battery, and ordered it limbered to the rear, and to retire into the cedar thicket, now being cut off from the road we came in the day previous. Being principally in the rear of our retiring forces, was subject to a heavy fire from the enemy following our retreat, and having all except one horse that moved my 6-pounder smooth-bore gun shot, was compelled to leave it; also one caisson belonging to the 10-pounder Parrott gun, containing about 50 rounds of ammunition. The remainder of the battery we succeeded in saving. Some of the carriages moved out with two horses, having had over half my horses killed and crippled. Fired during the day 493 rounds of ammunition, losing 2 men killed and 1 wounded.

Early on the morning of January 1, reported to General Negley the Parrott gun, and sent it on the field in charge of Lieutenant Spence. I then took the remainder of the battery, now unserviceable, to the rear; at the same time procuring 22 rounds of Parrott ammunition, and was subsequently ordered to move the unserviceable portion of the battery to Nashville, which I did, and immediately returned; but, while on the road, was attacked, and lost the rear chests of one caisson.

Lieutenant Spence was placed on the left center for a short time; then receiving orders to move to the right and take position with Marshall's battery, where he remained until about 12 m. January 2, when ordered to move to the left center and take position as on the day previous.

About 4 p. m. a heavy force of the enemy was discovered moving on our left and front, driving in our skirmishers. He immediately ordered shell to be fired into him as rapidly as possible, and at the same time receiving a heavy cross-fire from the enemy's artillery. Not long after the batteries on his right and left retired, and retired about 40 yards to the rear; found that the limber contained about 10 rounds of shell and few canister; immediately ordered the gun to its former position, using all the shell, and reporting the same to Captain Lowrie; was ordered to remain and use the canister in case a second attack was made; but the enemy being repulsed and driven beyond their intrenchments, he retired, moving the gun about one-fourth of a mile to the rear. Forty-two rounds of ammunition were expended, receiving little damage, except a few horses wounded.

On the morning of the 3d, I failed to procure ammunition, and remained as on the night previous.

Early on the morning of the 4th, procured 75 rounds of ammunition, and reported to Colonel Miller, who ordered me to move to the left center, and placed my gun in position with Marshall's battery.

About 3 p. m., was ordered to advance on Murfreesborough, and moved about 1 mile and remained during the night.

Early on the morning of the 5th, forded the river and passed through Murfreesborough.

I take great pleasure in referring to the valuable assistance rendered by Lieutenant Spence, whose heroic bravery inspired the men with courage, and his conduct is deserving of public commendation.

My non-commissioned officers and privates deported themselves like veterans who fight for the cause of their country.

Our loss in killed was 2—Godfrey Hautt, Ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, on detached duty with the battery, and Lewis Sagers, Seventy-eighth Pennsylvania, on detached duty with the battery; wounded, 1—Milton Crawhorn.

A. A. ELLSWORTH,

Lieutenant, Comdg. Hewett's Battery, Kentucky Vcl. Artillery.

H. M. CIST, *Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 80.

Report of Lieut. Alexander Marshall, Battery G, First Ohio Light Artillery.

HDQRS. BATTERY G, FIRST OHIO VOL. ARTILLERY,
Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 11, 1863.

SIR: In obedience to orders from Headquarters Seventh Brigade, Eighth Division, Fourteenth Army Corps, I have the honor to report the part taken by Battery G, First Ohio Volunteer Artillery, in the late engagement before Murfreesborough, Tenn.

On the morning of December 29, 1862, the battery was ordered out on a reconnaissance. Leaving the Murfreesborough pike at Stewartsborough, followed up Stewart's Creek 1 mile; discovered the enemy's cavalry in the woods on the opposite side of the creek; fired 12 rounds from rifled 12-pounder, causing them to disperse.

We then moved forward and to the right, taking position as indicated, until 2 p. m., when we crossed the creek with the brigade, advancing on a by-road running nearly parallel with the Murfreesborough pike. Entering the pike at Wilson's Creek, about 5 miles from Murfreesborough, advanced on the pike 2½ miles; took position on a slight elevation on the right of the pike, where we remained during the night, with horses harnessed and hitched in.

At daylight on the 30th, per order of Colonel Miller, moved about three-fourths of a mile to the right and front over a new and rocky road through a cedar thicket. Remained in this vicinity during the day, occupying several positions in a narrow corn-field and in the thicket, within range of the enemy's battery and rifle-pit, located in an open field in front.

At 4 p. m., fired about 50 rounds, shelling the woods on our right occupied by the enemy's skirmishers, whose fire was severe; also the battery and rifle-pit in front. Some of our shells falling into the rifle-pit caused considerable scattering. We remained in this position in the corn-field during the night. We elicited no reply from the enemy's battery during the whole day.

At 6 p. m., removed the right section out on the right of the section in the corn-field, and remained in this position, hitched in, during the night.

At daylight of the 31st, opened with the four guns stationed in the corn-field, shelling the woods to the right and the battery and rifle-pit in front, as the night before. About 8 a. m., moved the center section down to the left about 40 rods, taking position near two log-houses in rear of the corn-field, a dense thicket across the corn-field directly in front, open country to the left and front, where the enemy was in position. Remained in this position about thirty minutes without firing; then moved this section up and took position in center of the battery; worked the battery till about 11 a. m. The enemy up to this time fired but few rounds from their batteries in our front, firing being mostly from their skirmishers in the woods, when, in obedience to Colonel Miller's order, moved to the right; partially changed front. The batteries of the enemy opened over the advancing infantry a heavy fire before we had fairly got into position. Ordered caissons under shelter a short distance in the rear, and opened upon the rapidly advancing enemy with canister. As our support advanced, we moved our pieces forward by hand and worked them as rapidly as possible.

One of our 12-pounder howitzers being disabled, the trail having been

cut nearly off by a shot, ordered it to the rear. Went to work with canister, the enemy advancing in the woods close upon us. As our infantry support advanced we advanced our pieces by hand to the fence close to the woods, that we might hold an interval in their lines, and continued firing canister as fast as possible. During this time our horses were suffering severely from fire from the enemy; had them replaced by the teams from battery and forge wagon, which I had ordered up the day before, leaving the battery and forge wagon $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles in the rear, in charge of artificers. All of my spare horses were soon used up and several taken from the caissons. Had 3 men killed and several wounded.

Saw the enemy moving down the open field in masses on our left flank, and firing extending far to our rear on our right flank, and one of our 12-pounder rifles having a shot wedged and but three horses remaining, I ordered Lieutenant Crable to take the two disabled pieces and caissons to the rear through the cedar swamp, and ordered the remaining four pieces to fix prolonge, to fire retiring. The enemy had already been twice repulsed, when they moved upon both our flanks and front with renewed ranks and vigor, which caused our support to give way. I ordered the battery to retire to the woods in our rear, two pieces having but three horses and two four horses each.

My own, Lieutenant Whittlesey's, and one sergeant's horse were killed; three of the guns moved off as ordered; prolonge of the left piece, 12-pounder Wiard, broken; at the same time the lead rider was shot; the gunner mounted his team, when the off wheel horse was killed and the off lead horse wounded, which prevented us from using the limber. I then ordered a limber of one of the pieces already in the woods out, to draw the remaining 12-pounder off the field into the woods.

We had no sooner started back when I found the right and center of the brigade had fallen back, and the left (Twenty-first Ohio) was coming in, leaving the pieces about 40 yards outside of our lines, between us and the enemy, which was fast closing in on us, with a heavy fire. Saw that it was impossible to reach the gun. I ordered the limber back and gun limbered up; moved back through the cedar swamp in rear of brigade. There being no road, I was considerably bothered to work my way through. As the brigade was moving rapidly and the enemy pressing close upon us, two more of my wheel horses were shot and one rider, when I was obliged to leave two more guns, having but one wheel and middle horse on each piece. Sergeant Farwell, together with Sergeant Bills, took the remaining piece, passed the pieces left, and worked their way through and took position on the right of Captain Stokes' battery, where I found them and went to work, using up the balance of our ammunition—about 40 rounds.

As soon as joining this piece I sent to inform Lieutenant Crable where I was, and to get that portion of the battery which had succeeded in getting out, together with the battery and forge wagon, which was a short distance in the rear. After expending the ammunition of the piece I was with, moved to the rear, and left it in charge of Lieutenant Whittlesey, with the battery and forge wagon. I then proceeded to find Colonel Barnett or Lieutenant Edson, in relation to ammunition, when I met Lieutenant Crable, who informed me that our piece and four caissons had moved up the pike. I ordered him to have the carriages all halted, and to send back the 6-pounder ammunition. After waiting some time, sent my orderly back to hurry up the 6-pounder ammunition.

At dark, moved over to the left of the railroad, and remained during the night with the First Kentucky Battery, Lieutenant Ellsworth commanding, having previously reported to General Negley and Colonel

Miller the condition of the battery, and where I was; was ordered to remain in that vicinity.

Early on the morning of January 1, I proceeded out the pike; met sergeant with the 6-pounder caisson, who had been unable the night previous to find the gun. Sent sergeant forward with the caisson, when the piece in command of Lieutenant Whittlesey moved up and took position on the left of Captain Schultz's battery, in an open field on the left center, joining General Crittenden's corps. I soon met Lieutenant Crable with the 12-pounder howitzer, who informed me that when he came up with the 12-pounder howitzer, the afternoon of the 31st, the enemy was about making a charge upon our transportation, when he placed the piece in position, fired 15 rounds of shell, doing good execution, where he remained during the night with a brigade of cavalry.

I found that our loss for December 31, 1862, summed up 43 horses, 4 guns, 3 limbers, 2 caissons and limbers; 3 men killed, 8 wounded, and 12 missing. I then moved the 12-pounder howitzer to the front and took position with the other piece. Receiving 50 rounds for howitzer and 80 rounds for 6-pounder Wiard, immediately reported to Colonel Miller, commanding brigade, and General Negley, commanding division.

About 10.30, shifted our position about 200 yards to our front and left; remained in this position about an hour, when we received orders to move immediately to the right, across the pike, into a cedar thicket, and took position in center of Missouri battery.

About 3 p. m., was ordered to move with division to the rear and right; finally took position in corn-field on the extreme right, in company with Captains Standart's, Schultz's, and Ellsworth's batteries (fixed prolonge), where we remained until dark, when we moved back close to the pike under cover of an elevation, where we remained during the night.

At daylight on the morning of January 2, again moved up on the elevation. At about 12 m., received orders to move over and take position on left center, same as day previous. The skirmishers kept up a lively fire along our front until 4 p. m., when I observed the enemy moving in masses through the open country on the opposite side of the river, on our left and front, driving back our forces on the opposite side of the river, when we commenced shelling them as fast as possible, receiving a cross-fire from the enemy's artillery. Soon Captain Schultz's on our left, and Captain Swallow's batteries on our right, fell back. I then ordered prolonge fixed, and retired about 40 yards; commenced firing, when I had 1 man and 3 horses killed on the piece. At the same time the enemy was repulsed, and the ground retaken.

January 3, held the same position as the day previous; fired several rounds on the enemy, shelling the woods to the right and front as our men advanced.

Late on January 4, advanced with the division on Murfreesborough pike about 1 mile; encamped on the right of pike. Early on the morning of the 5th, forded the river and passed through Murfreesborough.

Our losses are: * Horses killed, 34; horses captured by the enemy, 12. Total horses killed and captured, 46.

I take pleasure in referring to the valuable assistance rendered me by Lieutenants Crable and Whittlesey. Their gallant and heroic bearing not only inspired the men with courage, but is deserving of public commendation.

Orderly Sergeant Sliney and Sergeants Bills, Farwell, and Mitchell,

* Embodied in revised statement. p. 211.

by their promptness in the execution of orders, and by their unflinching courage in scenes of danger, merit particular mention. Others in the command evinced soldierly qualities of no common order. To mention their names might seem invidious.

I wish to make special mention of Quartermaster Treat, who showed great energy and perseverance in keeping the men supplied with rations during the severe weather of seven days that we were separated by miles from our transportation, and his promptness in looking after, collecting together, and reporting to me property and men, which in the confusion of falling back had separated from the command.

Respectfully submitted.

ALEXANDER MARSHALL,

Lieutenant, Comdg. Battery G, First Ohio Volunteer Artillery.

H. M. CIST,

Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

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No. 81.

Report of Brig. Gen. James G. Spears, U. S. Army, commanding First Brigade, of operations January 2-9.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST TENNESSEE BRIGADE,
Hawthorn's, near Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 9, 1863.

GENERAL: I herewith beg leave to submit the following report, which is intended to embrace the action of the troops under my command from the 2d instant up to the present date:

At 12 m. on January 2, 1863, when at Nashville, Tenn., I was ordered by Brigadier-General Johnson, military governor of the State, to immediately take command of the First and Second East Tennessee Volunteer Infantry, and such other troops as would be assigned me by Brigadier-General Mitchell, commanding post, which were the Fourteenth Michigan Volunteer Infantry, about 300 men strong, commanded by Captain —; the Eighty-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, Colonel Moore commanding, 350 to 400 men strong, together with two sections of the Tenth Wisconsin Battery, commanded by Captain Beebe, and a company of cavalry, under Lieutenant —; also Colonel Pickens, commanding 300 mounted volunteers of the Third Tennessee Cavalry, which forces were placed under my command for the purpose of conducting and protecting a train of 303 wagons, loaded with commissary stores for the army, then before Murfreesborough.

I assumed command of the said forces at the junction of Market street and Murfreesborough pike at 5 p. m., at which place I took up the line of march, throwing out skirmishers and otherwise disposing the forces under my command in such manner as I believed would best protect the train.

After marching all night I reported myself and command at Major-General Rosecrans' headquarters at 5 o'clock on the morning of the 3d instant, and by his order turned over the train to his commissary.

Major-General Rosecrans then ordered me to report to General McCook, which I complied with, and, after receiving orders and instructions from General McCook, I placed the artillery under my command in position, drew up the infantry in line of battle, and the enemy failing to make any demonstrations in front, on the right wing, we stacked

arms and took refreshments. At this time I was ordered by General Rosecrans to turn the cavalry in my command over to General Stanley, which was done.

The skirmishing in front of General Thomas' division becoming heavy, I was ordered by General Rosecrans to change my position and report to General Thomas, which I did, and by his order took a position in front of his division, relieving troops that had held said position during the night.

I received further orders from General Thomas to place my artillery in reserve, and to throw up an intrenchment with my force, in doing which two of my men, privates in the First and Second East Tennessee Regiments, were wounded.

I was also authorized by General Thomas, if I thought proper, to throw out skirmishers, consisting of three or four companies, and retake and drive the enemy from a piece of woods in our front.

After my force had finished the intrenchments, I was informed by an aide of General Rousseau that he would co-operate with me in throwing out skirmishers and in retaking the woods, and driving the enemy from the same, as soon as the artillery had begun shelling the woods, which was to be the signal for advance. In accordance to this, I threw out two companies (Company A, Captain Duncan, and Company B, Captain Sawyers) from the First East Tennessee Regiment; also Company A, Captain Marney, of the Second East Tennessee Regiment, and one company of the Eighty-fifth Illinois, and one company of the Fourteenth Michigan, as skirmishers, at the same time that skirmishers were thrown out from General Rousseau's division.

Shortly after sundown, the signal was given by shelling the woods, and the skirmishers advanced. The skirmishing becoming heavy, my force advancing in front and General Rousseau's upon the right, it was soon discovered, as they approached the woods, that the enemy were there in strong force, and intended to maintain his position with the greatest obstinacy—so much so that I thought fit to order up Lieutenant-Colonel Melton, commanding Second East Tennessee Regiment, to support the skirmishers in front. By this time the skirmishers had driven the enemy back and gained the edge of the woods. Colonel Melton was ordered to advance as near as possible to the woods, and then to order his men to lie flat on the ground. By that time darkness had set in. I ordered Colonel Byrd, with the First East Tennessee Regiment, to take his position behind the intrenchments, while I ordered Lieutenant-Colonel Phillips, of the same regiment, to take command of the Fourteenth Michigan Regiment, and to flank the enemy upon the left and rear, and I ordered the skirmishers to withdraw in good order and retreat behind the Second East Tennessee Regiment, which, at this time, was pouring a galling fire into the enemy, while a hot fire was kept up by General Rousseau's skirmishers on the right and from the Michigan regiment on the left, which was kept up until the enemy abandoned his position, being completely routed. The engagement lasted from 6 to near 8 o'clock, during most of which time Major-General Thomas was a spectator on the field. I then ordered my forces to retire behind the intrenchments, throwing an advance picket forward to hold the position we had taken.

The force under my command in this engagement was composed of regiments and parts of regiments: Of the First Regiment East Tennessee Volunteer Infantry, 400 men; of the Second Regiment East Tennessee Volunteer Infantry, 400 men; of the Fourteenth Regiment Michigan Volunteer Infantry, 300 men; of the Eighty-fifth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, 350 men.

by General Hascall and his brigade. Ability, activity, and courage marked the conduct of the general commanding, and the brigade showed itself worthy of such a commander. I respectfully call the attention of the general commanding to the particularly handsome conduct of the troops in charging at La Vergne, in seizing the bridge at Stewart's Creek, and in repulsing the cavalry.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. L. CRITTENDEN,
Major-General, Commanding.

Col. J. P. GARESCHÉ.

—
HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING,
January 15, 1863.

COLONEL: In obedience to orders, I left camp, near Nashville, on December 26, and reached the point where the battle of Stone's River was fought just before dusk on the evening of the 29th.

The march from Nashville was accompanied by the skirmishing usual when any army moves toward any enemy posted near by and in force. The gallant and handsome things done by several portions of my command during this march have been mentioned in detail by the immediate commanders conducting the advance and leading the skirmishers. The seizure of two bridges, one by General Hascall and the other by Colonel Hazen; the gallant charge of the troops of Hascall's brigade at La Vergne, and the counter-charge and capture of 25 of the enemy by a company of the new regiment (One hundredth Illinois), when charged by the enemy's cavalry, are worthy of notice.

It was about dusk, and just at the moment when Generals Wood and Palmer had halted to gather up their troops, that I reached the head of my command. These two generals had their divisions in line of battle, General Wood on the left and General Palmer on the right, the enemy in sight, and evidently in heavier force than we had yet encountered them; it was evident they intended to dispute the passage of the river and fight a battle at or near Murfreesborough.

At this moment I received an order to occupy Murfreesborough with one division, encamping the other two outside. I immediately gave the order to advance, and the movement was commenced. Wood was ordered to occupy the place, General Palmer being ordered, at General Wood's suggestion, to keep in line with Wood's division, and advance with him until we had forced the passage of the river. At this time it was dark. General Wood had declared, when he received the order, that it was hazardous a great deal for very little to move over unknown ground in the night, instead of waiting for daylight, and that I ought to take the responsibility of disobeying the order. I thought the movement hazardous, but as the success of the whole army might depend on the prompt execution of orders by every officer, it was my duty to advance. After General Wood had issued the order to advance, and General Palmer had received his also, they both came to see me, and insisted that the order should not be carried out. I refused to rescind the order, but consented to suspend it for one hour, as General Rosecrans could be heard from in that time. During the interval the general himself came to the front and approved of what I had done.

In the mean time Colonel Harker had, after a sharp skirmish, gallantly crossed the river with his brigade and Bradley's battery, and Hascall was already in the river advancing when the order to suspend the movement was received. As soon as possible I recalled Harker, and, to my

great satisfaction, this able officer, with consummate address, withdrew from the actual presence of a vastly superior force his artillery and troops, and recrossed the river without any serious loss.

During the night General McCook came over to see the commanding general, and reported that he was on the Wilkinson pike, about 3 miles in the rear of our line, and that he should advance in the morning.

The next morning (the 30th) early, my line of battle was formed. Palmer's division occupied the ground to the right of the turnpike, his right resting on General Negley's left, General Negley having advanced into the woods and taken a position on the center, to connect with General McCook when he should come into line. General Wood was to occupy that part of our front to the left of the turnpike, extending down the river. General Van Cleve was held in reserve, to the rear and left.

This position of our forces was, without material change, maintained all day, though the skirmishing during part of the day was very heavy, particularly on our extreme right, where McCook was coming up. Then, when it apparently assumed almost the proportions of a battle, I proposed to cross the river with my corps and attack Murfreesborough from the left, by way of the Lebanon pike, but the general, though approving the plan of attack, would not consent that I should move until McCook was more seriously engaged.

On the morning of the 31st, when the battle began I occupied the front near the turnpike, General Palmer's division on the right, General Wood's on the left, General Van Cleve in reserve, to the rear and left.

About 8 o'clock, when my troops under Van Cleve were crossing the river, as ordered, and when all was ready for an advance movement, it became evident that our right was being driven back. Orders were received and immediately issued recalling Van Cleve, and stopping the advance. Van Cleve was ordered to leave a brigade to guard the ford (Matthews' brigade, Colonel Price commanding in Colonel Matthews' absence, was left), and to hurry with all possible dispatch to try and check the enemy to the right and rear. One brigade of his division, Colonel Fyffe's, had already been ordered to protect the train then threatened near the hospital; and General Van Cleve moved at once, and quickly, to the right with Beatty's brigade. He arrived most opportunely, as his own and Colonel Beatty's reports show, and checked the enemy.

The confusion of our own troops, who were being driven from the woods at this point, hindered him for some little time from forming his men in line of battle. This difficulty, however, was soon overcome, his line rapidly formed, and one small brigade, commanded by the gallant Colonel Beatty, of the Nineteenth Ohio, under the direction of General Van Cleve, boldly attacked vastly superior forces of the enemy, then advancing in full career, checked their advance, and drove them back.

Being soon re-enforced by Fyffe's brigade and Harker's brigade, of Wood's division, the enemy were pressed vigorously too far. They came upon the enemy massed to receive them, who, outnumbering them and outflanking them, compelled them to fall back in turn. This they did in good order, and fighting with such effect that the enemy drew off and left them, and they were able to hold their position during the remainder of the day. From this time the great object of the enemy seemed to be to break our left and front, where, under great disadvantages, my two divisions, under Generals Wood and Palmer, maintained their ground. When the troops composing the center and right wing of our army had been driven by the enemy from our original line of battle to a line almost perpendicular to it, the First and Second Divisions of the

left wing still nobly maintained their position, though several times assaulted by the enemy in great force. It was evident that it was vital to us that this position should be held, at least, until our troops, which had been driven back, could establish themselves on their new line.

The country is deeply indebted to Generals Wood and Palmer for the sound judgment, skill, and courage with which they managed their commands at this important crisis in the battle. The reports of my division commanders show how nobly and how ably they were supported by their officers; and the most melancholy and convincing proof of the bravery of all who fought in this part of the field is their terrible list of the killed and wounded, for with them there was no rout and no confusion. The men who fell fell fighting in the ranks.

Generals Wood and Van Cleve being wounded on the 31st, their commands devolved, of course, on other officers, General Hascall taking command of Wood's division and Colonel Beatty of Van Cleve's, on the 1st of January. It was a fortunate thing that competent and gallant officers took command of these noble divisions. On the night of the 31st, with the consent of the general commanding, I reunited my command, bringing them all together on the left of the turnpike; and before daylight, by orders from the general commanding, we took up a new line of battle, about 500 yards to the rear of our former line. Hascall's division was ordered to rest their right on the position occupied by Stokes' battery, and his left on General Palmer's right. General Palmer was to rest his left on the ford, the right extending toward the railroad and perpendicular to it, thus bringing the line at right angles to the railroad and turnpike, and extending from Stokes' battery to the ford.

On the morning of January 1, Van Cleve's division again crossed the river and took position on ground the general considered important we should hold, extending from the ford about half a mile from the river, the right resting on the high ground near the river, and the left thrown forward, so that the direction of the line should be nearly perpendicular to it. These changes in position having been accomplished, the day passed quietly, except continued skirmishing and occasional artillery firing.

The next day, January 2, large forces of the enemy's infantry and artillery were seen to pass to their right, apparently contemplating an attack. Lieutenant Livingston, with Drury's battery, was ordered over the river, and Colonel Grose's brigade, of Palmer's division, was also crossed over, taking post on the hill near the hospital, so as to protect the left and rear of Beatty's position.

On the evening of the 2d, about 4 p. m., a sudden and concentrated attack was made on the Third Division, now commanded by Colonel Beatty. Several batteries opened at the same time on this division. The overwhelming numbers of the enemy directed upon two brigades forced them, after a bloody but short conflict, back to the river. The object of the enemy (it is since ascertained) was to take the battery which we had on that side of the river. In this attempt it is most likely they would have succeeded, but for the sound judgment and wise precaution of Colonel Beatty in changing the position of his battery.

It was so late when the attack was made that the enemy, failing in their enterprise to capture our battery, were sure of not suffering any great disaster in case of a repulse, because night would protect them. They not only failed to capture our battery, but lost four of their guns in their repulse and flight.

As soon as it became evident that the enemy were driving Colonel

Beatty, I turned to my chief of artillery, Capt. John Mendenhall, and said, "Now, Mendenhall, you must cover my men with your cannon." Without any show of excitement or haste, almost as soon as the order was given, the batteries began to open, so perfectly had he placed them. In twenty minutes from the time the order was received, fifty-two guns were firing upon the enemy. They cannot be said to have been checked in their advance—from a rapid advance they broke at once into a rapid retreat. Re-enforcements soon began to arrive, and our troops crossed the river, and pursued the fleeing enemy until dark.

It is a pleasant thing to report that officers and men from the center and right wing hurried to the support of the left, when it was known to be hard pressed. General J. C. Davis sent a brigade at once without orders; then applied for and obtained orders to follow immediately with his division. General Negley, from the center, crossed with a part of his division. General McCook, to whom I applied for a brigade, not knowing of Davis' movement, ordered immediately Colonel Gibson to go with his brigade, and the colonel and the brigade passed at double-quick in less than five minutes after the request was made. Honor is due to such men.

On the night of the 2d, General Hascall, with his division, and General Davis, with his, encamped a little in advance of the position which Beatty had occupied. General Palmer, commanding the Second Division, encamped with two brigades in reserve to Hascall's and Davis' divisions and the remaining brigade on this side of the river.

In this position these troops remained until Saturday night, when, the river beginning to rise and the rain continuing to fall, it was feared we might be separated from the rest of the army, and all recrossed the river, except Palmer's two brigades, which remained, and did not come back until it was ascertained the next day, Sunday, that the enemy had evacuated Murfreesborough.

I feel that this report of the part taken by my command in the battle of Stone's River is very imperfect. I have only endeavored to give a general outline of the most important features of the battle. The reports, however, of the division, brigade, and regimental commanders, together with the report of the chief of artillery, accompanying this report, give a detailed and good account of the memorable incidents which occurred in this protracted fight.

Reports of the division commanders show how nobly they were sustained by their subordinate officers, and all reports show how nobly the troops behaved. Generals Wood and Van Cleve, though wounded early in the battle of the 31st, remained in the saddle and on the field throughout the day, and at night were ordered to the rear. General Palmer, exposing himself everywhere and freely, escaped unhurt, and commanded the Second Division throughout the battle.

To these three division commanders I return my most earnest and heartfelt thanks for the brave, prompt, and able manner in which they executed every order, and I very urgently present their names to the commanding general and to the Government as having fairly earned promotion.

After the 31st, General Hascall commanded Wood's division (the First) and Colonel Beatty (the Third) Van Cleve's. To these officers I am indebted for the same cheerful and prompt obedience to orders and same brave support which I received from their predecessors in command, and I also respectfully present their names to the commanding general and the Government as having earned promotion on the field of battle.

There are numerous cases of distinguished conduct, in brigade as well

as regimental commanders, mentioned by my division commanders as meriting promotion. I respectfully refer the general commanding to division, brigade, and regimental reports, and solicit for the gallant officers and men who have distinguished themselves for conduct and bravery in battle the honors they have won. We have officers who have commanded brigades for almost a year, though they have but the rank of colonel. In such cases, and in all like cases, as where a lieutenant commands a company, it seems, if the officers have capacity for their commands on the field, that they should have the rank the command is entitled to.

The report of Captain Mendenhall, chief of artillery to the left wing, shows the efficiency, skill, and daring with which our artillery officers handled their batteries. Division and brigade commanders vie with each other in commendations of our different batteries; some of these batteries, fighting as they did in all parts of the field, won praises from all. To these officers also attention is called, with a sincere hope that they may be rewarded as their valor and bearing deserve.

Maj. Lyne Starling, assistant adjutant-general to the left wing, has been for nearly eighteen months the most indefatigable officer I ever knew in his department. His services to me are invaluable. On the field here, as well as at Shiloh, he was distinguished even amid so many brave men for his daring and efficiency.

Capt. R. Loder, inspector-general of the left wing, has entitled himself to my lasting gratitude by his constant and able management of his department. It is sufficient to say that the gallant and lamented Colonel Garesché told him in my presence, but a short time before the battle, that he had proven himself to be the best inspector-general in the army. On the field of battle bravery was added to the same efficiency and activity which marked his conduct in the camp.

Capt. John Mendenhall, who has been mentioned already as chief of artillery to my command, but of whom too much good cannot be said, is also topographical engineer on my staff. In this capacity, as in all where he works, the work is well and faithfully done. His services at Shiloh, of which I was an eye-witness, his splendid conduct as chief of artillery of the left wing, his uniform soldierly bearing, point him out as eminently entitled to promotion.

To the medical director of the left wing, Dr. A. J. Phelps, the thanks of the army and country are due, not only for his prompt attention to the wounded, but for his arrangements for their immediate accommodation. He took good care not only of the wounded of my command, but of more than 2,000 wounded from other corps and from the enemy. Since the battle I have visited his hospitals, and can bear testimony to the efficiency of the medical department of this wing.

Capt. Louis M. Buford and Lieut. George Knox, my aides-de-camp, were brave, active, and efficient helps to me all through the battle. Captain Buford was struck just over the heart, fortunately by a ball too far spent to penetrate, and which only bruised. The captain and Lieutenant Knox were frequently exposed to the heaviest firing as they fearlessly carried my orders to all parts of the field.

Captain Case, of the Signal Corps, tendered his services as a volunteer aide, and proved himself a bold soldier and an efficient aide.

Two other officers of the same corps, Lieutenants Jones and ———, tendered their services as aides, and were placed on my staff during the battle, and I thank them sincerely for their services.

Lieutenant Bruner, of the Third Kentucky Cavalry, who commanded my escort, was as quietly brave on the battle-field as he is mild and gen-

tlemanly in the camp. I thank him and the brave men he commands for the fearless discharge of their duties amid so many hardships and perils.

Before concluding this report, it will be proper to add that when I speak of a quiet day, I mean to speak comparatively. We had no quiet days; no rest from the time we reached the battle-field until the enemy fled; skirmishing constantly, and sometimes terrible cannonading.

On the 2d, which we call a quiet day until about 4 p. m., the First Division, under Hascall, laid for a half hour in the early part of the day under the heaviest cannonading we endured. Many men were killed, but he and his brave soldiers would not flinch.

The appended summary of the killed and wounded, furnished by my medical director, demonstrates with what fearful energy and earnestness the battle was contested in my command.

Report of killed, wounded, and missing, Left Wing.

Divisions.	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.
First Division:			
Officers	11	56	.....
Enlisted men	200	859	167
Total	211	915	167
Second Division:			
Officers	15	49	6
Enlisted men	191	1,031	257
Total	206	1,080	263
Third Division:			
Officers	17	52	4
Enlisted men	216	854	387
Total	233	906	391
Grand total*			4,372

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. L. CRITTENDEN,
Major-General, Commanding.

Cool. C. GODDARD, Chief of Staff.

No. 95.

Report of Capt. John Mendenhall, Fourth U. S. Artillery, Chief of Artillery.

HDQRS. LEFT WING, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
January 10, 1863.

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the artillery in the left wing from December 26, 1862, to January 2, 1863:

This army marched from camp, near Nashville, December 26, the left wing marching on the Murfreesborough pike.

December 26, about 3 p. m., our advance was brought to a stand-still,

* But see revised statement, pp. 211-214.

near La Vergne, by a rebel battery. It was opposed by a section of artillery serving with the cavalry, which, being unable to dislodge the enemy, our advance battery (Captain Standart's, Battery B, First Ohio) was, after a little delay, put in position and opened fire, soon silencing the enemy's battery.

December 27, General Hascall took the advance with his brigade and Lieutenant Estep's Eighth Indiana Battery. They marched steadily forward until the enemy was driven across Stewart's Creek, the battery halting only when it was necessary to fire; two pieces were posted near, covering the bridge.

December 28, some artillery was so disposed as to check the enemy, should he attempt to destroy or retake the bridge.

December 29, Lieutenant Parsons, commanding Batteries H and M, Fourth Artillery, being in a commanding position, threw a few shells about 9 a. m., driving the enemy's pickets from the opposite woods. Our column advanced across the bridge at 10 a. m., meeting with little resistance until within about 3 miles of Murfreesborough. Our troops were placed in line of battle as they came up, the artillery remaining with their divisions.

December 30, about 9 a. m., the enemy opened upon Captain Cox's Tenth Indiana Battery (which was between the pike and the railroad, and in front partially covered by woods). Captain Bradley's Sixth Ohio Battery at once took a position to the left of the woods and in a corn-field. The two batteries soon silenced that of the enemy. One shot killed a man near where a number of general and staff officers were standing, and another, passing through Battery H, Fourth Artillery, killed one man and wounded another, besides disabling a horse.

December 31, the left wing started to cross Stone's River about 8 a. m., but before a division had crossed, intelligence was received that the right was falling back. Colonel Fyffe's brigade, which was about crossing, was ordered to countermarch and move at double-quick to the right. Captain Swallow's Seventh Indiana Battery operated for a time with this brigade, shelling the rebel cavalry from the brick hospital, &c. Colonel Beatty's brigade, having recrossed the river, advanced to the support of the right wing, but the Twenty-sixth Pennsylvania Battery, Lieutenant Stevens commanding, being unable to follow the brigade through the woods, took a position near the pike, and received the enemy with shot and shell as he advanced after our retreating columns, and, I think, did his part in checking him. He advanced as they retreated, and took a position in a corn field on the right of the pike, near the three-mile post, and again opened upon the enemy. The position of this battery underwent several changes during the rest of the day, but remained in the same immediate vicinity. Lieutenant Livingston, having recrossed the river with the brigade, took a position commanding the ford, and about 12 m. opened upon the enemy's cavalry, while attempting to drive off some of our wagons which had crossed the river, and were near a hospital we had established on the other side. They were driven away with little booty.

The batteries of General Wood's division (Cox's Tenth Indiana, Estep's Eighth Indiana, and Bradley's Sixth Ohio, all under command of Major Race, of the First Ohio Artillery) fought with the brigades with which they were serving. I had no occasion to give special orders to either of them during the day. The batteries of General Palmer's division served with it during the morning, rendering good service. Captain Standart's battery (B, First Ohio) fell back with General Cruft's brigade, and was not again engaged during the day.

Captain Cockerill during the afternoon was ordered to the front, and he took a position in the corn-field on the left of the woods, where the enemy was making such desperate attempts to force back the left. At this place Captain Cockerill was severely wounded in the foot, and the command of the battery devolved upon Lieutenant Osburn. Two guns of this battery were disabled from their own firing, the axles being too weak. One of the limbers of this battery was blown up during the day. Lieutenant Parsons, commanding Batteries H and M, Fourth Artillery, was ordered up to support the left about 4 p. m., and took a position in rear of the woods near the railroad, and after he had expended all his ammunition I sent Captain Swallow's (Seventh Indiana) battery to replace him. These batteries did much to repel the enemy, as he advanced with the evident determination to drive us back at all hazards, if possible.

During the night the batteries were resupplied with ammunition, and I directed them to take positions as follows, before daylight, viz: Lieutenant Livingston (Third Wisconsin), commanding ford on the extreme left; Captain Swallow (Seventh Indiana) on his right near the railroad; Lieutenant Stevens (Twenty-sixth Pennsylvania) also near railroad, but on the left of Captain Swallow. The batteries of the First Division between the railroad and the pike. Captain Bradley (Sixth Ohio) on the left; Captain Cox (Tenth Indiana) on the right, and Lieutenant Estep (Eighth Indiana) in the center. The Second Division batteries near the pike, in reserve.

During the morning Lieutenant Livingston was directed to cross the river; he was assigned a position by Colonel Beatty, and Captain Swallow took his place commanding the ford. Lieutenant Parsons was ordered to a position on General Rousseau's front by General Rosecrans, and Captain Cox was moved across the pike, near the Board of Trade Battery, to support the right of his division, which had moved its right to that point. After dark, Captain Standart was ordered to relieve the Board of Trade Battery. No firing, except now and then a shell at the enemy's pickets was fired, during the day.

January 2, early in the forenoon, the enemy opened his batteries, first upon our left, which was not responded to, their shot and shell doing no harm. They then opened more furiously upon the troops and batteries near the railroad and pike. Several of our batteries replied and soon silenced them. When the enemy had nearly ceased firing, the Board of Trade Battery (Captain Stokes) opened with canister upon Captain Bradley's battery and Colonel Harker's brigade, wounding several men and horses.

Captain Standart, with three pieces, Captain Bradley, Sixth Ohio, and Lieutenant Estep, Eighth Indiana, retired a short distance to fit up, they having received more or less injury from the enemy. Captain Bradley fell back on account of being fired into by Captain Stokes. He returned to his former position after a little while, but Captain Standart and Lieutenant Estep remained in reserve. I then ordered Lieutenant Parsons, with Batteries H and M, Fourth Artillery, to a position on the ridge, to the right of Captain Swallow (who was on the highest point of the ridge covering the ford), and Lieutenant Osburn, Battery F, First Ohio, to a position perhaps 100 yards to the right of Lieutenant Parsons. During the afternoon Colonel Beatty changed the position of Lieutenant Livingston's (Third Wisconsin) battery to near the hospital, across the river.

About 4 p. m., while riding along the pike with General Crittenden, we heard heavy firing of artillery and musketry on the left. We at