

THE  
WAR OF THE REBELLION:

A COMPILATION OF THE  
OFFICIAL RECORDS  
OF THE  
UNION AND CONFEDERATE ARMIES.

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

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

PURSUANT TO ACTS OF CONGRESS.

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

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1887.

I passed about 5 miles on the Chicken pike, in the direction of Stone's River, to a house where we had left one of the enemy's wounded—he being too severely wounded to move—which we left on the evening after the engagement. I found that a flag of truce had just removed his body to the enemy's lines. I left the Chicken pike just this side of the burned bridge crossing Stone's River, leaving the road to my left, and passed on about 1½ miles, to a house where I had left 6 of our men, who were wounded when the enemy made their last attack on the rear of our train. I found that the enemy had buried one of our dead left upon the field, also one of our wounded, who had died from a wound of the abdomen. I sent the remaining five in two ambulances back to our lines. I then took the remaining ambulance and passed on about 1 mile in the direction of La Vergne, where I came to the enemy's outposts. I here waited one-half hour for the arrival of a proper officer to receive the flag, when Lieut. Col. William S. Hawkins, of General Wheeler's staff, came and escorted me to the house of Dr. Charlton, where I found one of our wounded, also one of the enemy's wounded, fatally.

They spoke of it as a battle rather than a skirmish, and admitted a loss of 8 killed upon the field. The picket at the outpost said they had carried away a large number of wounded, but would not state how many. I took our wounded man in the ambulance, and left their lines to return about 4 p. m. Colonel Hawkins assured me they had but one of our men prisoner, a lieutenant of the Eighth Kentucky Volunteers, who was slightly wounded in the back, and that he had been well cared for by their surgeons, and would soon be sent to our lines. The wounded on the field were all from the Eighth Kentucky Volunteers, and had all been paroled the day previous. Colonel Hawkins accompanied me about 2 miles from their lines on my return. I saw no force of the enemy this side of their outposts.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
M. C. WOODWORTH,

*Surgeon 51st Ohio Vols., Acting Medical Director 23d Brigade.*

Capt. E. A. OTIS,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Division.*

DECEMBER 9, 1862.—Reconnaissance toward Franklin, and skirmish near Brentwood, Tenn.

#### REPORTS.

No. 1.—Col. John A. Martin, Eighth Kansas Infantry.

No. 2.—Brig. Gen. John A. Wharton, C. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Brigade.

#### No. 1.

*Report of Col. John A. Martin, Eighth Kansas Infantry.*

CAMP NEAR NASHVILLE, December 9, 1862.

SIR: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to orders from headquarters Ninth Division, I ordered the Twenty-fifth Regiment Illinois Volunteers, Lieutenant-Colonel McClelland, and the Eighth Kansas Battalion, Captain Block, to proceed on a reconnaissance to the front, in the direction of Franklin, at 2 p. m. to-day. The regiments left at the hour, and I rode with them as far as the outside pickets, which had a short time before been fired into by a small body of the enemy. Here I received an

order from headquarters to send out another regiment and a section of artillery, and, in obedience, I immediately ordered the Eighty-first Indiana Regiment, Major Woodbury, and two pieces of Captain Carpenter's Eighth Wisconsin Battery to join the reconnaissance, and then went forward to join the force in advance. Colonel McClelland had already deployed four companies of the Twenty-fifth and Eighth as skirmishers on each side of the road, and these had engaged in a brisk running fight with the enemy, also thrown out as skirmishers. The latter fell back rapidly, some of them abandoning their guns and clothing in their hasty flight. I directed the battery to move up the road behind the infantry. Captain Pease, of General Davis' staff, had meantime joined the command, and was doing valuable service in reconnoitering to the right and front.

The whole command then moved forward, the skirmishers keeping up an occasional firing, until we were about 5 miles beyond Brentwood, when a considerable body of the enemy's cavalry was seen in the road about a mile ahead. I had the battery placed in position, and fired several rounds at them. The enemy disappeared in great haste at the first shot. We remained at this point until just before sundown, when, in accordance with our orders, we returned.

From the best information to be obtained along the road, the enemy's force is all cavalry, and numbers 250 or 300 men. We drove them from their camp, finding their camp-fires yet burning brightly when we came up. One private of the Twenty-fifth Illinois is reported slightly wounded. What loss the enemy sustained I was unable to ascertain, although several are supposed to have been wounded.

I am, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

JNO. A. MARTIN,

*Colonel Eighth Kansas Volunteers, Commanding.*

Lieut. T. W. MORRISON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Division.*

#### No. 2.

*Report of Brig. Gen. John A. Wharton, C. S. Army, commanding Cavalry Brigade.*

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY BRIGADE,

*Nolensville, Tenn., December 10, 1862—6 p. m.*

GENERAL: I moved a forced reconnaissance yesterday, with a regiment of cavalry and one piece of artillery, on the Owen and Wilson, or Liberty pike. Found the enemy's camp near the junction of that pike with the Nolensville pike. Threw solid shot into their camp and aroused them sufficiently to induce re-enforcements to be sent to their aid. They showed no disposition to follow. The field officers and captains of Howard's regiment desire it to remain with me, and I am anxious for it to do so. I have never seen Colonel [James R.] Howard; the taking of it now would prevent me from picketing properly. Let me know if there is any probability of that regiment, or any other I have, being taken at any time, as I wish to know, on account of distributing clothing and drawing pay.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. A. WHARTON,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding Cavalry Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH WHEELER, *Chief of Cavalry.*

- No. 286.—Col. J. L. Camp, Fourteenth Texas Cavalry (dismounted).  
 No. 287.—Col. Julius A. Andrews, Fifteenth Texas Cavalry (dismounted).  
 No. 288.—Capt. James P. Douglas, Texas Battery.  
 No. 289.—Col. Robert B. Vance, Twenty-ninth North Carolina Infantry, commanding regiment and Second Brigade.  
 No. 290.—Lieut. Col. M. A. Stovall, Third Georgia Battalion.  
 No. 291.—Maj. Joseph T. Smith, Ninth Georgia Battalion.  
 No. 292.—Lieut. Col. William Thedford, Eleventh Tennessee Infantry.  
 No. 293.—Lieut. W. A. McDuffie, Eufaula Light Artillery.  
 No. 294.—Brig. Gen. E. McNair, C. S. Army, commanding Third Brigade.  
 No. 295.—Col. Robert W. Harper, First Arkansas Mounted Rifles, commanding regiment and Third Brigade.  
 No. 296.—Lieut. Col. James A. Williamson, Second Arkansas Mounted Rifles (dismounted).  
 No. 297.—Col. H. G. Bunn, Fourth Arkansas Infantry.  
 No. 298.—Capt. William A. Cotter, Thirtieth Arkansas Infantry.  
 No. 299.—Maj. J. A. Ross, Fourth Arkansas Battalion.  
 No. 300.—Capt. John T. Humphreys, Arkansas Battery.  
 No. 301.—Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler, C. S. Army, Chief of Cavalry, including skirmishes at and near La Vergne, December 26 and 30, and January 1; at Stewart's Creek Bridge, December 27; at Stewart's Creek, December 28; at Wilkinson's Cross-Roads, December 29; at Cox's, or Blood's Hill, January 3; at Murfreesborough, January 4; on Manchester pike, January 5; at Mill Creek Bridge, January 8; near Nashville, January 12; and capture of transports, January 13, 14, and 17, and of construction train at Antioch, January 25.  
 No. 302.—Capt. T. H. Mauldin, Third Alabama Cavalry, Wheeler's brigade, including skirmishes December 26–January 5.  
 No. 303.—Lieut. Col. J. D. Webb, Fifty-first Alabama Partisan Rangers, including skirmishes December 26–January 5.  
 No. 304.—Capt. J. H. Wiggins, Arkansas Battery, including skirmishes at La Vergne December 26–27.  
 No. 305.—Brig. Gen. John A. Wharton, C. S. Army, commanding cavalry brigade.  
 No. 306.—Brig. Gen. Abraham Buford, C. S. Army, commanding cavalry brigade, including skirmishes December 31–January 3.  
 No. 307.—The Confederate Roll of Honor.

## No. 1.

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

## ARTILLERY.

Col. JAMES BARNETT.

## PROVOST GUARD.

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

## GENERAL ESCORT.

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

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

## RIGHT WING.

Maj. Gen. ALEXANDER MCD. MCCOOK

## FIRST (LATE NINTH) DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JEFFERSON C. DAVIS.

*Escort.*

36th Illinois Cavalry, Company B, Capt. Samuel B. Sherer.  
 2d Kentucky Cavalry, Company G:  
 Capt. Miller R. McCulloch.  
 Lieut. Harvey S. Park.

*First (late Thirtieth) Brigade.*

Col. P. SIDNEY POST.

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

*Second (late Thirty-first) Brigade.*

Col. WILLIAM P. CARLIN.

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

*Third (late Thirty-second) Brigade.*

Col. WILLIAM E. WOODRUFF.

## 25th Illinois:

Maj. Richard H. Nodine.  
 Col. Thomas D. Williams.  
 Capt. Wesford Taggart.

35th Illinois, Lieut. Col. William P. Chandler.  
 61st Indiana, Lieut. Col. John Timberlake.

*Artillery.\**

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

## SECOND DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. RICHARD W. JOHNSON.

*First (late Sixth) Brigade.*

(1.) Brig. Gen. AUGUST WILLICH.  
 (2.) Col. WILLIAM WALLACE.  
 (3.) Col. WILLIAM H. GIBSON.

89th Illinois, Lieut. Col. Charles T. Hotchkiss.  
 32d Indiana, Lieut. Col. Frank Erdelmeier.  
 39th Indiana, Lieut. Col. Fielder A. Jones.

## 15th Ohio:

Col. William Wallace.  
 Capt. A. R. Z. Dawson.  
 Col. William Wallace.

## 49th Ohio:

Col. William H. Gibson.  
 Lieut. Col. Levi Drake.  
 Capt. Samuel F. Gray.

\* The Second Minnesota was attached to the Second Brigade, Fifth Wisconsin to the First Brigade, and Eighth Wisconsin to the Third Brigade.

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

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	
<i>Second Brigade.</i>							
Col. WILLIAM P. CARLIN.							
21st Illinois .....	2	55	7	180		59	303
38th Illinois .....	2	32	5	104		34	177
101st Ohio .....	1	19	5	121		66	212
15th Wisconsin .....	2	13	5	65	1	53	119
Minnesota Light Artillery, 2d Battery .....		3	1	5		1	10
Total Second Brigade .....	7	122	23	475	1	193	821
<i>Third Brigade.</i>							
Col. WILLIAM E. WOODRUFF.							
Staff .....			1				1
25th Illinois .....	1	15	3	72		5	96
35th Illinois .....		10	2	49		25	86
81st Indiana .....	1	4	2	46	1	15	69
Wisconsin Light Artillery, 8th Battery .....	1		4			1	6
Total Third Brigade .....	3	29	8	171	1	46	258
Total First Division .....	11	176	40	785	2	400	1,414
SECOND DIVISION.							
Brig. Gen. RICHARD W. JOHNSON.							
<i>First Brigade.</i>							
(1) Brig. Gen. AUGUST WILLICH.*							
(2) Col. WILLIAM WALLACE.							
(3) Col. WILLIAM H. GIBSON.							
Staff .....					1		1
80th Illinois .....	1	9	1	45		94	150
32d Indiana .....		12		40		115	167
39th Indiana .....		30	3	116	2	229	380
15th Ohio .....		17	2	68	1	127	215
49th Ohio .....	2	18	0	88		108	222
1st Ohio Light Artillery, Battery A .....		1		4		24	29
Total First Brigade .....	3	87	12	361	4	697	1,164
<i>Second Brigade.</i>							
(1) Brig. Gen. EDWARD N. KIRK.†							
(2) Col. JOSEPH B. DODGE.							
Staff .....			1				1
34th Illinois .....	2	19	2	98	2	72	195
79th Illinois .....	1	23	3	68	3	121	219
29th Indiana .....	1	14	2	66	1	51	135
30th Indiana .....	1	30	2	108	2	70	213
77th Pennsylvania .....	1	4	1	28	2	28	64
1st Ohio Light Artillery, Battery E .....		3		5	2	23	32
Total Second Brigade .....	6	93	11	373	12	364	859
<i>Third Brigade.</i>							
Col. PHILEMON P. BALDWIN.							
6th Indiana .....		17		50	1	36	104
5th Kentucky .....	1	18	7	73		26	125
1st Ohio .....		8	1	46		81	136

\* Wounded and captured December 31.

† Wounded December 31.

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

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	
<i>Third Brigade—Continued.</i>							
93d Ohio .....		12	3	45		64	124
Indiana Light Artillery, 5th Battery .....		3	1	18		1	23
Total Third Brigade .....	1	58	12	232	1	208	512
<i>Cavalry.</i>							
3d Indiana, Companies G, H, I, and K .....		4		6		15	25
Total Second Division .....	10	242	35	972	17	1,284	2,560
THIRD DIVISION.							
Brig. Gen. PHILIP H. SHERRIDAN.							
<i>First Brigade.</i>							
(1) Brig. Gen. JOSHUA W. SILL.*							
(2) Col. NICHOLAS GREUSEL.							
Staff .....	1		1				2
36th Illinois .....	1	45	7	144	2	13	212
88th Illinois .....	1	13	2	48		48	112
21st Michigan .....		18	7	82		36	143
24th Wisconsin .....		19	2	55		98	174
Indiana Light Artillery, 4th Battery .....		6		17		3	26
Total First Brigade .....	3	101	19	346	2	198	669
<i>Second Brigade.</i>							
(1) Col. FREDERICK SCHARFER.*							
(2) Lieut. Col. BERNARD LAIBOLDT.							
Staff .....	1						1
44th Illinois .....	1	28	5	104		17	155
73d Illinois .....	1	15	3	61	1	7	88
2d Missouri .....		7		40	1	14	62
15th Missouri .....	3	9	4	51		5	72
1st Missouri Light Artillery, Battery G .....	1	5		13		1	20
Total Second Brigade .....	7	64	12	269	2	44	398
<i>Third Brigade.</i>							
(1) Col. GEORGE W. ROBERTS.*							
(2) Col. LUTHER P. BRADLEY.							
Staff .....	1						1
22d Illinois .....		21	7	109	2	54	183
27th Illinois .....	1	8	2	67		25	103
42d Illinois .....	1	19		96	1	45	161
51st Illinois .....	1	6	4	37		9	57
1st Illinois Light Artillery, Battery C .....		5	2	19		25	51
Total Third Brigade .....	4	58	15	328	3	158	566
Total Third Division .....	14	223	46	943	7	400	1,633
Total Right Wing .....	85	641	121	2,700	26	2,084	5,697
CENTER.							
Maj. Gen. GEORGE H. THOMAS.							
Staff and escort .....		1	1				2

\* Killed December 31.

Stone's River; also a list of the animals, means of transportation, and other property captured from the enemy and picked up on the field and at Murfreesborough, as reported by the quartermasters of the several divisions named. A large number of the wagons that were partially burned by the enemy have been recovered and turned into the repair shops. Some wagons and a large number of animals reported as lost have been picked up by the several regiments, and will be taken up and accounted for by the quartermasters in their monthly returns, so that the actual loss is much less than appears by the annexed statement.

Very respectfully,

JOHN W. TAYLOR,

*Lieutenant-Colonel and Quartermaster.*

Maj. Gen. W. S. ROSECRANS,  
*Commanding Department of the Cumberland.*

*Statement of public animals and means of transportation captured by the enemy, killed in battle, and lost and destroyed from December 26, 1862, until January 16, 1863.*

Command.	Wagons.	Ambulances.	Harness, sets.	Horses.				Mules.	Animals.
				Draught.	Artillery.	Cavalry.	Total.		
<b>RIGHT WING.</b>									
Headquarters	10	1	60					60	60
<b>FIRST DIVISION.</b>									
Headquarters			3	7		1	8	5	13
Ammunition and supply train	35		204	4		3	7	204	211
<b>First Brigade.</b>									
Headquarters			4	3		1	4		4
22d Indiana	1		6			2	2	5	7
59th Illinois	2	1	12			2	2	11	13
74th Illinois	2		12					12	12
75th Illinois	1		6					12	12
5th Wisconsin Battery	2		30		21		21	12	33
<b>Second Brigade.</b>									
Headquarters			24			1	1	24	25
21st Illinois	4		13					13	13
38th Illinois	2		14	1			1	15	16
15th Wisconsin	2	1	23	3			3	25	28
101st Ohio	4		2						
2d Minnesota Battery					13		13		13
<b>Third Brigade.</b>									
Headquarters						4	4	1	5
25th Illinois	1		6			1	1	6	7
35th Illinois	1		6			4	4	6	10
81st Indiana	2		10	4		1	5	6	11
8th Wisconsin Battery			8		18		18		18
36th Illinois Cavalry, Company B.						3	3		3
2d Kentucky Cavalry, Company G.						7	7		7
<b>SECOND DIVISION.</b>									
3d Indiana Cavalry		1				30	30		30
Supply train	3		18					18	18
Ammunition train	2		12					12	12

*Statement of public animals and means of transportation captured by the enemy, killed in battle, lost and destroyed, &c.—Continued.*

Command.	Wagons.	Ambulances.	Harness, sets.	Horses.				Mules.	Animals.
				Draught.	Artillery.	Cavalry.	Total.		
<b>First Brigade.</b>									
15th Ohio			1	5	4		4	1	5
49th Ohio			2	4					2
32d Indiana			1		1		1	1	2
39th Indiana	1		1	4	4		4		4
89th Illinois			2	2	2		2		2
1st Ohio Artillery, Battery A.			1	30			62		62
<b>Second Brigade.</b>									
Headquarters							7	7	14
54th Illinois							1	1	1
79th Illinois	1						2		3
29th Indiana	1	1		2	2		2		6
30th Indiana				1					2
77th Pennsylvania				2			2		2
1st Ohio Artillery, Battery B.				82	7		76		88
<b>Third Brigade.</b>									
Headquarters	1			6				6	6
93d Ohio		1		4	5		5		5
5th Kentucky (Louisville Legion)	1			6	1		1	6	7
6th Indiana		1		6	1		1	6	7
5th Indiana Battery				18			24		24
<b>THIRD DIVISION.</b>									
Headquarters ammunition and supply train.	58			348				348	348
<b>First Brigade.</b>									
36th Illinois	1			6				6	6
88th Illinois	2	1		14	2		2	12	14
24th Wisconsin	1			6				1	1
4th Indiana Battery	1	1		8	2	43	45	6	51
<b>Second Brigade.</b>									
Headquarters	1			6				6	6
2d Missouri	1			4				4	4
15th Missouri									
44th Illinois									
73d Illinois	1			6				6	6
1st Missouri Artillery, Battery G.	1			6		37	37	6	43
<b>Third Brigade.</b>									
Headquarters	1			6				6	6
22d Illinois	1			6				6	6
27th Illinois	2	2		16				16	16
42d Illinois	1	2		8				8	8
51st Illinois	2	1		14	18		18	18	36
1st Illinois Artillery, Battery C.	1			8			85	8	93
<b>CENTER.</b>									
<b>FIRST DIVISION.</b>									
<b>Second Brigade.</b>									
3d Ohio	1							4	4
88th Indiana	1			4	1		1		1
1st Michigan Battery					10		10		10
<b>Fourth Brigade.</b>									
Headquarters							1		1
1st Battalion, 18th Infantry, U. S.				2				10	10
2d Battalion, 18th Infantry, U. S.		1	2					2	2
5th U. S. Artillery [Battery H]					15		15		15

## No. 8.

*Report of Capt. Jesse Merrill, Chief Signal Officer.*

HDQRS. SIGNAL CORPS, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,  
*Murfreesborough, January 7, 1863.*

**MAJOR:** We left Nashville on Friday, December 26, in company with the advancing army, and kept well up to the front until Monday, when the troops were pushed vigorously forward, about 11 miles from where we then were, to the place which was afterward the battle-field, the west side of one fork of Stone's River. We kept communication with two columns of the advancing troops, but, as they afterward merged into one, one of the lines was abandoned. The one kept up was with General Crittenden, commanding left wing; the one abandoned, with Negley's division of center, which came in on Crittenden's right, on the same road on which we were.

The right wing of the army, under McCook, consisting of three divisions, marched on a road about 6 miles to our right. We used all our energies in trying to get communication with him, but failed, the intervening country being almost level, and a dense wood.

On Monday night I accompanied Generals Rosecrans and Thomas to the front. Communication was kept from the front to the rear during the night. A copy of the messages sent will be forwarded as soon as the reports are received. On Tuesday we communicated between Generals Rosecrans and Thomas. McCook was then about 10 miles to the right in the woods.

Crittenden's headquarters were beside those of Rosecrans. The skirmishing during the afternoon was very severe. At daylight on Wednesday morning loud reports of artillery and musketry in rapid succession were heard on the right, and at almost the same time an attack was made on the front center. Between 8 and 9 o'clock McCook's line of battle was broken, and his division separated, and, straggling, rushed through the woods to the Murfreesborough pike, 2 miles from their original position. Another line was formed parallel with the pike, and here the enemy were successfully resisted, both on the right and in front. They were pressing us heavily, though, and when the sun went down, and the din of battle and the roar of artillery ceased, all seemed relieved.

Signals could not be used to any advantage on that field; woods and clumps of trees were all around us. Even if this had not been so, it would have been impossible to use them, for General Rosecrans was constantly riding over the field, and other generals seemed equally active. At no one time, and I rode with him during most of the day, do I remember of his having been one-half hour at the same place. The result of this day's fight was, our right wing driven 2 miles, with a loss of thirty pieces of artillery, and a large number of wounded and prisoners, and thousands of stragglers, who were rushing to the rear, and could hardly be driven back to their places in the ranks. On Thursday both armies lay quiet, seemingly worn out by the contest of the previous day. To us it was a day of terrible suspense. On Friday afternoon all our available force was massed on the left, to attack the enemy's right. Happily for us, they attacked us just when we were about to move on them, and they were driven back with great loss and in much disorder. On Saturday evening we again attacked them, and drove them from a strong position. On Sunday morning they had with-

drawn their forces across the river, and they began to evacuate this place. The officers of the corps rendered all the assistance they could; the movements of the enemy were watched closely, though but little could be seen of them. Some of them were efficient as aides-de-camp to the generals to whom they were assigned.

I will claim your indulgence for this report, as it has been written under very unfavorable circumstances, and in great haste.

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

JESSE MERRILL,

*Captain in Charge of Signal Corps, Fourteenth Army Corps.*

Maj. ALBERT J. MYER,  
*Chief Signal Officer, U. S. Army.*

## No. 9.

*Report of Col. James Barnett, First Ohio Light Artillery, Chief of Artillery.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,  
*Murfreesborough, Tenn., February 8, 1863.*

**SIR:** I have the honor to submit, for the information of the general commanding, a summary from the reports of the batteries of this department, of their position, &c., at the late battle of Stone's River.

Right wing, Second Division, composed of the following batteries: Battery A, First Ohio Artillery, Lieutenant Belding commanding, attached to General Willich's brigade; Battery E, First Ohio Artillery, Captain Edgerton, attached to Colonel Kirk's brigade; Fifth Indiana, Captain Simonson, attached to Colonel Buckley's brigade, having the following guns: Nine James rifles, three 6-pounder smooth-bore, two 12-pounder howitzers, two 10-pounder Parrotts, and two 12-pounder light field guns.

On the evening of December 30, Battery A was placed in position in the rear of the brigade, on the extreme right of the right wing, with one section, the other two sections fronting the rear, horses unhitched, but not unharnessed.

At daybreak the horses were sent to water, with the precaution to return at the least alarm; firing commenced; teams returned quickly and hitched. The brigade falling back very fast, the battery retired to a slight eminence in the rear, but the enemy having got so far to the right that the guns were under a cross-fire. Near this point three guns were taken by the enemy. Two other pieces were taken rapidly to the rear, one gun, having horses remaining, was served with effect as opportunity was offered, firing about four rounds at each unlimbering. Upon reaching the Murfreesborough pike, this gun was put in position with Captain Simonson's battery, where about ten rounds were fired. Upon being ordered to return, one wheel-driver and two horses being killed while limbering up, the piece was temporarily abandoned, but was brought off by the Louisville Legion with prolonge attached. This battery the next day was held in position, with two guns, near the Murfreesborough pike, in reserve, where it remained until ordered forward across the river.

Company E, First Ohio Artillery, Captain Edgerton, was posted, on

the night of December 30, on the extreme right and in front of Battery A, in position to guard a country road, horses harnessed all night.

At daylight of the 31st, horses were sent to water; at the firing of the pickets, horses were hitched in, or at least one-half, and others immediately returned. Two shells were thrown in the direction of the enemy, still invisible, and, as they appeared, six rounds of canister were thrown with great effect. The vigorous attack of the enemy in front and flank, and the loss of many horses, rendered it necessary to abandon the battery, after, however, a determined resistance, 2 cannoneers being bayoneted at the guns. Captain Edgerton and Lieutenant Berwick were captured.

The Fifth Indiana Battery, Captain Simonson, was first put in position on the morning of the 31st about one-half mile to the right of the Six-Mile pike, upon which the right wing advanced upon an open field, with the battery fronting to the west. Here the right section was temporarily detailed, by order of Colonel Baldwin, and ordered to the left and front about 400 yards. From this position the battery fell back with the division, and was ordered, by Brigadier-General Johnson, to take another position on the crest, about 200 yards to the right of the Murfreesborough pike and near to the right of Major-General Rousseau's division, which position it retained until ordered to retire.

The next ground taken was in the open space to the left, and about 25 yards from the railroad, where it remained until about sunset, when General Johnson ordered the battery to the left of his division, about 185 yards to the right of the Murfreesborough pike, opposite the headquarters of Major-General Rousseau, where it remained until ordered to cross Stone's River, January 5. The battery lost two guns.

The artillery of the First Division is composed of the following batteries, and had the following guns: Fifth Wisconsin, Captain Pinney, attached to Colonel Post's brigade; Second Minnesota, Captain Hotchkiss, attached to Colonel Carlin's brigade; Eighth Wisconsin, Captain Carpenter, attached to Colonel Woodruff's brigade. Four 10-pounder Parrotts, eight 6-pounder smooth-bore, four 12-pounder howitzers. Captain Pinney's battery, which, with his brigade, was on the extreme right of the army, on the 30th, after driving the enemy, to enable the skirmishers to advance to the open fields in front, took position, with horses in harness, for the night. After dark, two brigades of the Second Division took position on the right.

On the morning of the 31st, upon the falling back of these two brigades, the battery changed front to the right, to meet the enemy rapidly approaching by the right and rear, supported by the Fifty-ninth Illinois and posted in a corn-field, where they opened fire with canister, checking temporarily the advance of the enemy. However, being unopposed on the right, the position became untenable, and the battery was withdrawn, leaving Captain Pinney dangerously wounded, with the loss of some 18 horses and one gun. The balance of the battery was dragged to the rear by the assistance of the Fifty-ninth Illinois. Near the Nashville pike it was charged upon by cavalry, who were driven off by the Fourth Cavalry Regiment, and took position behind Overall's Creek, on a hill to the right of the pike, where they remained all night.

The next morning their position was on the left of the pike, where breastworks were thrown up in a position to enfilade the enemy's lines. At this point a rebel battery, opening, was soon silenced by a few Parrott shots.

In the afternoon of the next day the battery, with its brigade, was

ordered to cross the Stone's River, where it was put into position, throwing up breastworks, and where it remained until 2 o'clock on the morning of January 4, when it recrossed the river, taking its former position on the right, where it remained until January 6, 1863.

The Second Minnesota Battery, Captain Hotchkiss, moved on the 30th with its brigade to the right of the Wilkinson pike until the withdrawal of skirmishers, when the battery opened with canister and spherical case with effect. When the first line of the brigade had arrived at the point about 180 yards from the house of Mrs. William Smith, two batteries, one about 100 yards west of the house and another on the east of the house, 250 yards distant, opened fire on the Twenty-first Illinois and Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteers. These batteries were soon silenced, but another to the right, about 500 yards, enfilading the brigade, was driven off by a well directed fire from this battery.

Before daylight on the morning of the 31st, the battery was retired 200 yards, soon after which the brigade was vigorously attacked and obliged to fall back across the open fields, and entered a wood about 200 yards east of Griscom's house, when several rounds were fired with destructive effect.

The command was again retired about 1 mile, and went into position in the edge of a cedar grove, from whence it again retired to the railroad. The next position was near the Nashville pike, 4 miles from Murfreesborough.

On January 2, under order of Major-General Rosecrans, the brigade and battery were sent to the left, crossing Stone's River at the ford, relieving Colonel Hazen, where they remained until January 4.

The Eighth Wisconsin Battery, Captain Carpenter, at about 11 o'clock, December 30, was posted on the edge of a cotton-field, in front of a wood running parallel with the pike, facing southeast, placed in the interval between General Sill's right and the left of its (Colonel Woodruff's) brigade.

At about 3 o'clock the command was moved forward, with heavy skirmishing. The right of the brigade, being well advanced, was halted, and remained until support should come up. The battery was placed at the angle of the fence, to protect the right and front, when it received a heavy fire, occasionally replying with shell, until toward night, when the enemy opened a heavy artillery fire on the right of Carlin's brigade, which was silenced in handsome style in five minutes. Colonel Carlin's brigade being attacked at about the same time, this battery again opened with such effect as to effectually check the attack.

The enemy on the morning of the 31st made their attack in five lines, the battery opening a full fire of canister with terrific effect. After a determined resistance, being ordered back, several ineffectual attempts were made to get into position, but, owing to the general stampede, no stand could be made until they reached the Murfreesborough pike, where they remained until Friday; being then ordered to the left, crossed the ford, and went into position on the extreme left, about 2 miles from the ford.

On Saturday, January 3, the battery changed position again to the right, where it remained until ordered to Murfreesborough.

The batteries of the Third Division are as follows: Battery G, First Missouri, Captain Hescok, attached to Colonel Schaefer's (Second) brigade; Battery C, First Illinois, Captain Houghtaling, attached to Colonel Roberts' (Third) brigade; Fourth Indiana Battery, Captain Bush, attached to General Sill's (First) brigade, with the following guns: Two

10-pounder Parrotts, four 12-pounder light field guns, two James rifles, six 6-pounder smooth-bore, and four 12-pounder howitzers.

Battery G, First Missouri, Captain Hescoek, moved on the morning of the 30th, at 7 a. m., with its brigade, on the right and rear of the division, to the right of the Wilkinson pike, having Bush's battery on the left. Toward evening, Bush moving to the front, Captain Hescoek took his place. The three batteries of the division concentrated their fire upon the enemy's batteries, silencing their fire.

In the morning this battery and Captain Houghtaling's opened a heavy fire upon the enemy, who were engaging Generals Sill's and Davis' commands, until the enemy, who were pursuing General Johnson's command, gained their rear, when they moved to the front, to the position first held by the enemy, and then took position on the north side of the road, sending one section to re-enforce Captain Bush, engaging the enemy hotly until their ammunition was expended, when they retired through the cedars with the division. After gaining the open field, their guns were brought into action and fired until all the ammunition was expended.

About 3 o'clock, January 1, they took a position south of the Murfreesborough pike, and were not further engaged.

Battery C, First Illinois, Captain Houghtaling, on the 30th moved on the left of Captain Bush, and next to the Wilkinson pike, south side; opened fire, in concert with other batteries of the division, at the enemy in front.

On the 31st, at the falling back of General Johnson, this battery took position on the right of the pike, just in the edge of the timber, supported by Colonel Roberts' brigade, where he remained until all of his horses were killed and ammunition expended, when he was forced to abandon his guns, falling back and assisting at the guns of the other batteries of the division.

The Fourth Indiana Battery, Captain Bush, on the afternoon of the 30th, being on the right of Captain Houghtaling, moved his battery to the front and opened fire on the enemy at short range, with the other batteries, driving back the enemy. During the night the captain moved to a more commanding position.

On the 31st, the battle opened with this division by an attempt to capture this battery, which was gallantly defended by General Sill, when this brave officer fell between the guns. The battery fell back with the other batteries of the division, and took position on the north of the pike, sending one section, with Lieutenant Flansburg, to re-enforce Captain Houghtaling; one Parrott section, with Lieutenant Taliaferro, was, at this time, sent to Captain Houghtaling, assisted by Captain Hescoek, when, after a very warm resistance, and ammunition failing, the battery was compelled to retire, with the loss of two of its guns left in the cedars. The next position taken was on the south of the Murfreesborough pike, with the division.

*Center.*—The artillery of the First Division consists of the following batteries: Captain Stone, First Kentucky Battery; Lieutenant Van Pelt, First Michigan Battery; Company H, Fifth U. S. Artillery, Lieutenant Guenther, with the following guns: Ten 10-pounder Parrotts, two James rifles, two 6-pounder smooth-bore, and four 12-pounder light field guns.

Captain Stone's First Kentucky Battery was not ordered into position until January 1, when it was posted on the right of the Murfreesborough pike, directly in front of the log-house, one section being stationed

in the woods, about 100 yards distant. The battery afterward moved to the front edge of the woods, in rear of the center of the brigade to which it was attached. At night it relieved Lieutenant Parsons' battery, which was stationed outside and in front of the woods, commanding the corn-fields and woods to the right and front, in which position it remained until January 3. At 4 p. m. relieved Captain Cox's half battery, which was about 50 yards to the left, posting a half battery in its place at night; shelled the fields and woods from both points; was not further engaged.

The First Michigan Battery, Lieutenant Van Pelt, took position on the morning of the 31st on the left of the pike, 3 miles from Murfreesborough, where they remained during the day, serving their guns with effect; were relieved on the 1st of January, and took position about half a mile in rear of front line of battle.

On January 2 moved a few hundred yards to the front, and took position on the right of the pike, remaining at this point through the day. On Saturday morning the battery moved to the front, behind earthworks, immediately beyond the pike, fronting the position occupied on Wednesday, remaining there all day and night, shelling the woods at sundown.

On the morning of the 31st, Company H, Fifth Artillery, Lieutenant Guenther, moved through the cedars to the left of the pike with its brigade, but was returned, owing to the impracticability of operating in the woods, and took position in the open ground in time to check a rebel advance. From the cedars it then moved to a position on the rise of ground on the opposite side of the pike. On the appearance of the enemy at close range, a heavy fire with canister shot was opened on them with such effect that they were driven back to the woods in disorder. The battery held this position until the morning of January 1, when it was moved some distance to the rear, and, after several changes of front, was ordered with the brigade to a point on the Murfreesborough pike, beyond Stewart's Creek. This order being countermanded, the battery encamped near its old point.

On the morning of January 3 fire was opened on a battery of the enemy which was annoying our troops, resulting in driving it from its position. During the forenoon the brigade and battery moved forward and occupied rifle-pits and epaulements which had been constructed for them. At dusk the battery opened fire with shell and spherical case shot on the enemy, concealed in the woods and buildings and behind breastworks, &c., which, being followed by infantry, drove them from their position. The battery remained in position during the following day, and on the morning of the 5th removed to Murfreesborough.

The batteries of the Second Division, Brigadier-General Negley, are as follows: Company M, First Ohio, Captain Schultz; Company G, First Ohio Artillery, Lieutenant Marshall; Company M, First Kentucky [Second Kentucky Battery], Lieutenant Ellsworth, with the following guns: Two 12-pounder Wiard steel guns, two 6-pounder Wiard, four 12-pounder howitzers, two James rifles, one 6-pounder smooth-bore, and two 16-pounder Parrotts. The three batteries of this division were posted with the division on a slope of the west bank of Stone's River, in advance, but joining the right, of General Crittenden's line, with General Sheridan on their right; Captain Schultz on the right of Battery G, First Ohio, and Battery M, First Kentucky [Second Kentucky Battery], on the left. The batteries opened fire on the enemy and drove them, holding the position during the day and night.

On the 31st, these batteries, after holding their position under a murderous fire for four hours, having a large proportion of their horses killed, and being out of ammunition, were compelled to retire with the loss of six guns in getting through the cedars.

On January 1, Company M was posted on the left side of the railroad; changed position about 1 o'clock to the right of Murfreesborough pike, where it remained until night.

On January 2, these batteries were posted on the hill at the ford of Stone's River, to resist the attack on the left, which proved successful.

*Left Wing.*—The batteries of the left wing are the following: Company M, Fourth U. S. Artillery, Lieutenant Parsons; Company H, Fourth Artillery, Lieutenant Throckmorton; Company B, First Ohio Artillery, Captain Standart, attached to the Second Division; Tenth Indiana, Captain Cox; Eighth Indiana, Lieutenant Estep; Sixth Ohio, Captain Bradley, attached to the First Division; Seventh Indiana Battery, Captain Swallow; Third Wisconsin, Lieutenant Livingston; Twenty-sixth Pennsylvania [Battery B, Pennsylvania Light Artillery], Lieutenant Stevens, attached to the Third Division, with the following guns: Four 3-inch rifles, ten 12-pounder howitzers, six James rifles, twelve 6-pounder smooth-bores, and sixteen 10-pounder Parrotts.

The first position taken by Batteries H and M, under command of Lieutenant Parsons, was just to the right of the Murfreesborough pike, 2½ miles from Murfreesborough. During the morning they retired for ammunition, and took a second position between the railroad and pike, and, after firing away all their ammunition, they again retired. On January 2 they were moved to the front, and soon after took position at the hill near the ford, and participated in repulsing the enemy from our left.

Company B, First Ohio Artillery, Captain Standart, on the 31st was posted on the right of Lieutenant Parsons. After firing away his ammunition, he retired for the day. On the 2d he was put in position on the hill on the right of the pike, commanding the corn-field occupied by Stokes' battery the day before. Being under a very heavy cannonading, three pieces were retired to a position under cover, in reserve, to the left of the pike. These three guns were, in the afternoon, moved to the left, to resist the attack of the enemy.

Company F, First Ohio, Captain Cockerill, on the 31st, was placed in position on the left of Parsons' battery, and on the right of the pike; but during the morning retired and took position on the left of the railroad and about 400 yards from it, which position they held until the attack on the left, to which point Lieutenant Osburn moved four pieces, the captain having been wounded.

Captain Bradley, on the morning of the 31st, moved, with Colonel Harker's brigade in its advance, to check the enemy on the right, and held with it its position through the day. On the 2d he held a position on commanding ground near to the right of the railroad. When the attack was made on the left, he changed front to fire to the left.

The Seventh Indiana Battery, Captain Swallow, on the 31st, went into battery a short distance to the right of the pike, 2½ miles from Murfreesborough, and in the afternoon moved to the left of the railroad, going into battery on the right of Cockerill's battery. On the 2d this battery also was placed on the high ground to resist the enemy's attack at the ford.

The Eighth Indiana Battery, Lieutenant Estep, was placed on the opposite side of the pike (left) and rear of Captain Swallow's battery.

On the 2d, having suffered severely from the enemy's artillery in the morning, he retired to repair damages, and, when the attack was made on the left, massed with the other batteries on the hill at the ford.

The Tenth Indiana Battery, Captain Cox, was placed in position in front and on the left of the railroad, which he maintained on the 31st and afterward. The Twenty-sixth Pennsylvania Battery [Battery B, Pennsylvania Light Artillery], Lieutenant Stevens, was posted on the left and facing the pike, 3 miles from Murfreesborough, when the enemy appeared. As they fell back he moved forward, crossing the pike, taking position on the ridge, changing several times.

On the 2d he changed front to fire to the left, and opened fire when the attack was made in that direction.

The Third Wisconsin Battery, Lieutenant Livingston, was commanding the ford on the 31st. They afterward moved across the river at the ford. When the attack was made on the 2d, they recrossed and took position on the hill in line with the other batteries of the corps.

The Board of Trade Battery, Captain Stokes, attached to the Pioneer Brigade, consisting of four 6-pounders, smooth-bore, and two James rifles, moved, on the 31st, promptly to the front and right of the pike, serving canister with effect. They afterward moved still farther to the front, holding a good position, commanding a corn-field and the wood beyond. After having held the position thirty-six hours, the battery was ordered to the rear.

On the 2d, this battery was again put in position with the batteries to resist the attack from the left, and opened, with the artillery force massed at that point, a destructive fire, causing the enemy to retire. The losses in *matériel* and *personnel* I had the honor to report immediately after the battle.

The many gallant actions of battery officers and men are named by their immediate commanders in their reports, to which I respectfully refer for the details of their action. The practice of the batteries was good, and the precaution of the general commanding to fire low and be sparing of ammunition was heeded. Owing to the nature of the country, the loss of the guns was unavoidable, as in falling back on the right the horses could not be under cover, and the thick cedar thickets prevented the guns being brought off by hand.

Six guns, 3 caissons, 3 damaged forges, and 2 battery wagons were captured from the enemy, or recaptured; also 5,451 muskets, with bayonets, scabbards, &c.

The whole number of men engaged in serving the batteries was 86 commissioned officers and 2,760 non-commissioned officers and privates.

I remain, colonel, your obedient servant,

JAMES BARNETT,  
Colonel and Chief of Artillery.

Lieut. Col. C. GODDARD,  
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

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## Report of loss sustained by the batteries of the Fourteenth Army Corps.

Designation of battery.	Name of commanding officer.	Officers.			Enlisted men.			Guns.		Horses.			Harness.		Battery wagons.		Forges.		Number of rounds ammunition expended.
		Killed.	Wounded.	Captured.	Killed.	Wounded.	Captured and missing.	Captured.	Disabled.	Killed.	Wounded.	Captured and missing.	Sets of lead.	Sets of wheel.	Lost.	Disabled.	Lost.	Disabled.	
Battery E, 1st Ohio Artillery.....	Captain Edgerton.....	2	2	2	5	20	6	1	75	28	14	28	14	1	1	1	1	7	
Battery A, 1st Ohio Artillery.....	Lieutenant Beidson.....				3	23	3	1	73	22	11	22	11	1	1	1	1	25	
5th Indiana Battery.....	Captain Simonson.....				4	12	2	3	14	6		6						213	
Battery C, 1st Missouri Artillery.....	Captain Besocke.....				6	20	6	6	36	17								1,112	
Battery D, 1st Missouri Artillery.....	Captain Hoopstading.....	1	1	1	6	24	6	6	80	16								1,184	
4th Iowa Battery.....	Captain Hoopstading.....				6	17	2	2	17	10								1,184	
4th Wisconsin Battery.....	Lieutenant Hill.....	1	1	1	5	1	1	1	21	10								1,706	
8th Wisconsin Battery.....	Lieutenant Hill.....	1	1	1	4	1	2	2	18	4	3	4	2	1	1	1	1	375	
2d Minnesota Battery.....	Captain Hatchkiss.....	1	1	1	3	5	2	2	13	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	500	
1st Kentucky Battery.....	Lieutenant Van Pelt.....				1	11	2	2	5	5	6	2	2					500	
Battery H, 5th U. S. Artillery.....	Captain Stone.....				5	5	5	5	5	4								697	
Battery Michigan Artillery.....	Lieutenant Grenther.....				3	4	4	4	3	4								110	
Battery M, 1st Ohio Artillery.....	Captain Church.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9									170	
Battery G, 1st Ohio Artillery.....	Captain Schulz.....				4	8	4	4	34	12								750	
Hewitt's Kentucky Battery.....	Lieutenant Marshall.....				2	2	1	1	28	14	5							553	
Battery B, 1st Ohio Artillery.....	Lieutenant Nell.....				3	13	3	3	21	21								610	
Batteries H and M, 4th U. S. Artillery.....	Captain Standart.....				2	14	6	6	20	20								2,289	
7th Indiana Battery.....	Lieutenant Parsons.....	1	1	1	4	7	1	1	1	4								406	
Battery F, 1st Ohio Artillery.....	Captain Swallow.....				2	12	2	2	24	24								1,080	
3d Wisconsin Battery.....	Captain Cockerill.....				7	4	4	4	9	9								338	
26th Pennsylvania Battery.....	Lieutenant Livingston.....				2	7	7	7	7	7								1,650	
10th Indiana Battery.....	Lieutenant Stevens.....				4	4	4	4	72	4								1,442	
8th Indiana Battery.....	Captain Cox.....				6	6	6	6	15	4								871	
6th Ohio Battery.....	Lieutenant Batép.....	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3								500	
Board of Trade Battery.....	Captain Bradley.....				2	2	2	2	10	5								500	
Board of Trade Battery.....	Captain Stokes.....				3	3	3	3	3	1								1,460	
Total.....		2	9	3	61	195	103	28	1,509	60	59	83	36	3	1	5	1	20,307	

Respectfully submitted.

JAMES BARNETT,  
Colonel and Chief of Artillery.

No. 10.

## Report of Capt. James St. Clair Morton, U. S. Engineers, commanding Pioneer Brigade.

HDQRS. PIONEER BRIGADE, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,  
Camp, 3 miles north of Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 5, 1863.

MAJOR: According to your order, I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken in the late battle by my brigade, which is composed of three battalions of Pioneers and Stokes' (Chicago Board of Trade) battery:

On the march hither from Nashville, my brigade constructed two bridges over Stewart's Creek between the hours of 4 p. m. and 4 a. m. December 29 and 30, arriving here on the 30th.

On the morning of the 31st, the brigade was engaged in improving the fords of Stone's River, in which the right battalion sustained the fire of some rebel cavalry, when I was ordered to take position in the line of battle, and formed my brigade, by the orders of the commanding general in person, fronting toward the right, where the enemy appeared on a rise of ground in front of us, from which they had driven one of our batteries. I immediately opened fire with canister from Stokes' battery and drove them back. I then, by order of the commanding general in person, advanced to the said rise, and held it under the fire of three rebel batteries. I supported the battery by the First Battalion of Pioneers on the left, posted in a thicket, and by the Third Battalion on the right. The Second Battalion was placed in a wood still farther to the right.

Shortly after I had formed my line, the enemy appeared across the field, preparing to charge upon some of our troops, who were retiring, but had been rallied by the commanding general. I opened fire upon these from Stokes' battery, which played over the head of the commanding general and our troops, and arrested their advance. My right battalion was soon after attacked, the object of the enemy being to penetrate through the line under cover of the woods. Said battalion changed front so as to obtain a flanking fire, and by a single volley repulsed the enemy, composed of the Eleventh and Fourteenth Texas Regiments. In this the battalion was aided by the Seventy-ninth Indiana, which had rallied on its right.

Toward sundown, the enemy appearing on my left, I brought two sections of Stokes' battery to the left of my First Battalion, and repulsed a brigade of the enemy which attacked that battalion in the thicket. They left their dead within 50 paces of my line. In this affair both the battalion and the battery behaved very creditably.

The brigade slept on their arms the night of the 31st. Early on the 1st instant the enemy appeared on my left, apparently to advance through the gap between it and the pike. I changed my front and occupied the gap, and sustained and returned their volleys of musketry, playing upon them from the battery and preventing their advance beyond the edge of the woods. We held this position till after nightfall, when the brigade was relieved and formed in reserve.

On the morning of the 2d, part of the Pioneers were engaged in making road crossings over the railroad, when the enemy opened a cannonade, which reached our camp. I brought out Stokes' battery and returned the fire. The battalions advanced, supporting it under a fire of solid shot and shell. The cannonade having ceased, I received orders to fall

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. MCD. MCCOOK,

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

Maj. C. GODDARD,

*Chief of Staff, Fourteenth Army Corps.*

No. 16.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

I have the honor to remain, your most obedient servant,  
C. McDERMONT,

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

Major CAMPBELL,

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

*General summary of casualties of Right Wing.*

Regiments.	Killed.	Wounded.	Total.
FIRST DIVISION.			
22d Indiana.....	7	88	46
5th Wisconsin Battery.....	1	7	8
15th Wisconsin.....	15	72	87
74th Illinois.....	8	33	41
59th Illinois.....	7	43	50
35th Illinois.....	11	53	64
25th Illinois.....	16	79	95
75th Illinois.....	2	22	24
21st Illinois.....	47	198	245
2d Minnesota Battery.....	2	5	7
81st Indiana.....	6	48	54
101st Ohio.....	18	125	143
8th Wisconsin Battery.....	1	4	5
38th Illinois.....	34	110	144
Total.....	175	838	1,013
SECOND DIVISION.			
49th Ohio.....	16	96	112
15th Ohio.....	17	96	113
93d Ohio.....	12	41	53
1st Ohio.....	8	38	46
39th Indiana.....	30	109	139
32d Indiana.....	12	41	53
6th Indiana.....	15	52	67
30th Indiana.....	29	100	129
29th Indiana.....	4	22	26
89th Illinois.....	10	45	55
79th Illinois.....	19	80	99

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

Regiments.	Killed.	Wounded.	Total.
SECOND DIVISION—Continued.			
34th Illinois .....	18	100	118
5th Kentucky .....	18	80	98
Battery A, First Ohio Artillery .....	1	5	6
5th Indiana Battery .....	3	18	21
77th Pennsylvania .....	4	29	33
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>216</b>	<b>952</b>	<b>1,168</b>
THIRD DIVISION.			
36th Illinois .....	45	159	204
88th Illinois .....	15	56	70
24th Wisconsin .....	19	58	77
21st Michigan .....	18	84	102
42d Illinois .....	21	109	130
22d Illinois .....	25	88	113
51st Illinois .....	6	48	54
27th Illinois .....	8	55	63
73d Illinois .....	22	52	74
44th Illinois .....	6	34	40
15th Missouri .....	14	44	58
2d Missouri .....	2	22	24
4th Indiana Battery .....	5	16	21
1st Missouri Artillery, Company G .....	6	13	19
1st Illinois Artillery, Company C .....	5	20	25
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>217</b>	<b>857</b>	<b>1,074</b>
<b>Aggregate</b> .....	<b>608</b>	<b>2,647</b>	<b>3,255</b>

Respectfully forwarded.

C. McDERMONT,

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

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

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

## FIRST DIVISION.

(JOHN L. TEED, medical director.)

Regiments.	Killed.	Wounded.	Total.
38th Illinois .....	34	110	144
22d Indiana .....	7	39	46
5th Wisconsin Battery .....	1	7	8
15th Wisconsin .....	15	72	87
74th Illinois .....	8	33	41
59th Illinois .....	7	43	50
35th Illinois .....	11	53	64
25th Illinois .....	16	79	95
2d Minnesota Battery .....	2	5	7
75th Illinois .....	2	22	24
81st Indiana .....	6	48	54
101st Ohio .....	18	125	143
21st Illinois* .....			
8th Wisconsin Battery .....	1	4	5
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>128</b>	<b>640</b>	<b>768</b>

\* Not reported.

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

## SECOND DIVISION.

(S. MARKS, medical director.)

Regiments.	Killed.	Wounded.	Total.
34th Illinois .....	18	100	118
77th Pennsylvania .....	4	28	32
79th Illinois .....	19	80	99
30th Indiana .....	29	100	129
6th Indiana .....	15	52	67
1st Ohio .....	8	38	46
93d Ohio .....	12	41	53
5th Kentucky .....	18	80	98
32d Indiana .....	12	8	20
39th Indiana .....	30	109	139
15th Ohio .....	17	106	123
1st Ohio Artillery, Battery A .....	1	5	6
89th Illinois .....	10	45	55
49th Ohio .....	16	96	112
5th Indiana Battery .....	3	18	21
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>212</b>	<b>906</b>	<b>1,118</b>

## THIRD DIVISION.\*

(D. J. GRIFFITHS, medical director.)

88th Illinois .....	15	55	70
21st Michigan .....	18	84	102
36th Illinois .....	45	159	204
27th Illinois .....	9	35	44
24th Wisconsin .....	19	58	77
51st Illinois .....	6	48	54
22d Illinois .....	25	88	113
42d Illinois .....	21	109	130
44th Illinois .....	6	34	40
73d Illinois .....	22	52	74
2d Missouri .....	2	22	24
15th Missouri .....	14	44	58
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>202</b>	<b>788</b>	<b>990</b>

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

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

No. 17.

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

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

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

\* This division reports no batteries.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

\* But see revised statement, pp. 207, 208.

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

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

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

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

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

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

JEF. C. DAVIS,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.*

Maj. JOHN A. CAMPBELL,  
*Asst. Adj. Gen., Right Wing, Fourteenth Army Corps.*

No. 18.

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

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH WISCONSIN BATTERY,  
*January 6, 1863.*

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

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

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

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

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

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

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES B. HUMPHREY,

*Lieutenant, Commanding Fifth Wisconsin Battery.*

No. 19.

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

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

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

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

\* Nominal list omitted.

in battery three different times at Nolensville, and fired 38 rounds at the enemy; effects of the shots unknown.

December 30, we took up our line of march with the brigade. By order of Brigadier-General Woodruff, we took position in front about noon and shelled a piece of woods in our front for two hours, when we were ordered to advance. We then came into position on the left of the Third Brigade, in the edge of a belt of timber, near a small corn-field, in the immediate vicinity of the enemy, from which point we shelled them until dark, the enemy only firing two shots at us while in this position, one of which struck a tree over one of our caissons, the other burst in our front, a piece of shell striking the wheel of a gun-carriage. At dark we fell back with three of our guns, by order of General Woodruff, and stationed ourselves over a hill in the rear of the infantry, remaining all night with harness on our horses; one gun on picket.

December 31, as soon as it was light, we took a position to the left of the position occupied the night before, with our three guns. Immediately on taking our position the enemy charged on us in force. We opened on them with canister, with good effect, checking them considerably. Our infantry support here gave way, and we were ordered to fall back. Capt. Stephen J. Carpenter was killed before we ceased firing, and 4 men wounded. Our battery retired in some confusion, with the loss of one 10-pounder Parrott gun, and 11 horses killed and wounded.

By order, we again came into position in a large corn-field in our rear, from which point we opened on the enemy, and continued to fire until our support left us, when we were again obliged to fall back. We then moved a little to the right and rear, when we came into position and opened on the enemy as they advanced out of the woods in our front. We did some execution with canister and shell, but our support again leaving us we were obliged to fall back. By this time the confusion seemed to have become general; our battery fell back to the rear and left, and reported to Brigadier-General Woodruff's headquarters at 3 o'clock in the afternoon with three guns, 50 men, and one gun-limber.

January 1, 1863, by order of General Woodruff, we drew 100 rounds of ammunition, and sent one 6-pounder gun, caisson and limber, to a 10-pounder Parrott gun to the rear, where they were captured by the enemy, with 1 man taken prisoner and 3 horses lost. Went into position with two guns, and remained till next day.

January 2, were ordered to march with the brigade. Moved to the left, and took a position between our brigade and that commanded by Colonel Carlin, by order of General Davis, commanding division. Immediately on coming into position the enemy opened a volley of musketry on us, when we were ordered to fire. Opening on them with canister, they soon fell back.

January 3, we lay in front all day, exposed to the fire of the enemy's sharpshooters.

January 4, at 3 o'clock in the morning, we were ordered to fall back to our former position on the pike, which we did, thus ending the fight on our part. We fired about 400 rounds of ammunition during the engagements.

Respectfully submitted.

HENRY E. STILES,

*Lieut., Comdg. Eighth Wisconsin Battery, Volunteer Artillery.*

Brig. Gen. JEFFERSON C. DAVIS,

*Comdg. First Division, Right Wing, Fourteenth Army Corps.*

No. 20.

*Report of Col. P. Sidney Post, Fifty-ninth Illinois Infantry, commanding First Brigade.*

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION,  
RIGHT WING, FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,  
*In Camp, south of Murfreesborough, January 9, 1863.*

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the First Brigade in the late engagements, resulting in the taking of Murfreesborough:

In compliance with the order of Brigadier-General Davis, commanding division, we left camp, at Saint James' Chapel, at daylight December 26, 1862, and marched in the direction of Nolensville, this brigade being in advance. We soon came upon the enemy's cavalry. Company B, Thirty-sixth Illinois Cavalry, under direction of Captain Pease, of Brigadier-General Davis' staff, occupied the road, and the Fifty-ninth Illinois Infantry was thrown out as skirmishers on each side of it. A lively skirmish was kept up until we reached Nolensville, when the enemy appeared in force and opened upon the brigade with artillery.

The left of our line of battle rested upon the pike, the right occupying a hill commanding the town. Captain Pinney's (Fifth Wisconsin) battery opened upon the enemy and drove them from the town.

A large force of cavalry was seen moving to the right and dismounting, with the evident intention of attacking our right and rear and dislodging us from the hill. The Twenty-second Regiment Indiana Infantry was moved to the right to repel this attack, and Colonels Carlin's and Woodruff's brigades deployed, by order of Brigadier-General Davis, upon our right, soon came up, and the enemy were driven from their position and forced to withdraw their artillery.

This brigade, on the left of the line of battle, moved forward up the pike leading to Triune, Pinney's battery being on the pike, the Twenty-second Indiana and the Seventy-fourth Illinois on its right, and the Seventy-fifth and Fifty-ninth Illinois on its left. The enemy were posted in a position of great natural strength, about 2 miles from Nolensville, on the right and left of the pike, with one section of artillery on and the remainder near the road. Pinney's battery, from a knoll to the left of the pike, opened at short range with all his guns, and this brigade, on the left of Colonel Carlin's, marched steadily forward, driving the enemy from the hill, where they were compelled to abandon one piece of artillery. This march had been made in a drenching rain, and the men, exhausted by their exertions upon the muddy road and the excitements of the day, bivouacked on the field, for the possession of which they had fought. The following day this brigade marched in rear of Colonel Carlin's nearly to Triune, it raining constantly and being very cold.

December 29, we marched in rear of Colonel Woodruff's brigade, on the Bole Jack road, toward Murfreesborough. About 2 miles from Overall's Creek, by order of Brigadier-General Davis, I deployed the brigade on the right of the road, and moved forward nearly to the creek, where we bivouacked in the rain, without fires.

On the morning of December 30, we marched across the fields on the right of the Wilkinson pike, the Seventy-fourth and Seventy-fifth Regiments Illinois Infantry deployed on the right of Colonel Carlin's bri-

gade, and being the right of the entire army, the Fifty-ninth Regiment Illinois Infantry in reserve to support the battery, and the Twenty-second Regiment Indiana Infantry in a position to protect the right flank from the enemy's cavalry, which were continually hovering about and engaging the skirmishers. I directed Captain Sherer, who, by order of Brigadier-General Davis, reported to me with Company B, Thirty-sixth Illinois Cavalry, to throw out skirmishers and march upon our right flank, where he repeatedly engaged and drove back the cavalry threatening our line. The skirmishing in front grew more brisk, and late in the afternoon the enemy were found in force, strongly posted, and opened upon us, with artillery from our front and right, killing 1 and wounding several men. Captain Hale, acting as major of the Seventy-fifth Illinois, and Lieutenant Hall, of my staff, each had a horse killed under him.

General Kirk's brigade at this time moved into position upon our right. Captain Pinney's battery drove back the enemy from our front, and, under cover of his fire, our skirmishers were advanced to the open field, when night closed the contest. The men lay down without fires or shelter, and in the morning were awakened and standing in order of battle one hour before the first dawn of light. The battery horses stood at their pieces during the night, ready for any emergency.

As soon as it became light, the enemy were discovered moving in great numbers toward our right, and nearly parallel with our line, with the evident design of turning the right wing of the army. I immediately dispatched Lieutenant Jones, of my staff, to inform Brigadier-General Davis.

The right of the brigade extended into a dense and almost impenetrable thicket of cedars, connecting there with the left of General Kirk's brigade, and in that direction nothing could be seen on account of the thicket. For more than half an hour the enemy's dark columns flowed toward our right, where the volleys of musketry and their advancing cheers from that direction assured me that they had driven the brigades on our right from their position, and were already in our rear, and I accordingly changed front nearly perpendicularly to the rear to meet them.

The Seventy-fourth Illinois, Col. Jason Marsh, and the Seventy-fifth Illinois, commanded by Lieut. Col. J. E. Bennett, were stationed behind a fence in the edge of the timber. By order of Brigadier-General Davis, several companies were added to our force of skirmishers, and, under his direction, Pinney's battery took position in a corn-field, with the Fifty-ninth Illinois Infantry, commanded by Capt. H. E. Paine, supporting it on the left. Perceiving that the enemy were still far beyond our right, I deployed my reserve regiment, the Twenty-second Indiana, Colonel Gooding commanding, on the right of the battery. The Sixth Regiment Indiana Infantry, having been separated from its brigade, was placed about 400 paces in rear as a reserve.

Captain Pinney opened upon the advancing line with all his guns, and when they came within range of his canister and the fire of the supporting regiment, the execution was so great that the entire line recoiled before it, but, after temporary confusion, they were rallied and lay down. The enemy opened a battery upon the hill and advanced a second line.

Captain Pinney's guns were splendidly handled, and great credit is due to Lieutenants Humphrey, Gardner, and McKnight, and to the men of the company, for their promptness and skill. No shots were wasted over the heads of the enemy. For about thirty minutes this

fierce contest continued, while the enemy on our right had advanced, so as to again endanger our rear.

As those in front rallied and charged upon the battery on the double-quick, the Fifty-ninth Illinois Regiment fixed bayonets to receive them, but, with the large force unopposed upon our right, the position was already untenable, even though that in front was repulsed, and I ordered the battery withdrawn.

Captain Pinney was dangerously, if not mortally, wounded. He fell, and was left on the spot where he executed his most gallant deeds. Lieutenant-Colonel Tanner, of the Twenty-second Indiana, and many others seriously wounded, were left upon the field.

Eighteen of the battery horses were disabled, and one gun, in consequence, could not be brought off. One Parrott gun had but two wounded horses before it. I ordered the Fifty-ninth Regiment to drag the guns to the rear. As the battery reached the Nashville pike, it was charged upon by cavalry, and partially captured, but they were quickly driven away by the Fourth Regiment Regular Cavalry, and, crossing Overall's Creek, it took a position, under the direction of Lieutenant Hall, on a hill to the right of the Nashville pike, from which it repeatedly shelled and drove back the enemy's cavalry, endeavoring to take possession of the road.

The Seventy-fourth and Seventy-fifth Illinois Regiments fell back across the cotton-field, and, under the direction of Lieutenant Jones, who also rallied a number of detachments from other regiments, made a determined resistance, again checking the foe. The fresh troops from the reserves here relieved the brigade, and I proceeded to the pike, reformed my shattered battalions, and supplied them with ammunition.

I was soon ordered by Brigadier-General Davis to move up the pike and take position on the right of the line, and here, exhausted, the men lay down for the night.

The next morning I was ordered to occupy the open field to the left of the pike, where I caused a breastwork to be thrown up, the battery being in position to enfilade the enemy's lines attempting an attack. A strong force of skirmishers was thrown out, covering our front and right. The enemy opened a battery upon us, but, after a few well-directed shells from Pinney's Parrott guns, they ceased firing.

During the following day the constant skirmishing was kept up on our front, and a number of prisoners were taken. Late in the afternoon we were ordered to cross Stone's River. The stream was swollen from the heavy rains, but the entire brigade, hearing the volleys of musketry on the other side, plunged into it with cheers and debouched upon the field, which was still being contended for, and, rapidly forming, hurried to the front. All that stormy night, the men who had been previously soaked in fording the river, stood by their arms without fires, the Twenty-second Indiana and Seventy-fifth Illinois busily engaged in constructing a breastwork. During the night our pickets, under charge of Major Dutcher, of the Seventy-fourth Illinois, contested for the possession of the fields and woods in our front, and advanced a considerable distance.

Substantial breastworks were completed during January 3, under a constant fire of sharpshooters, and at night, in a pouring rain, the men again lay upon their arms.

At 2 o'clock the next morning the battery was ordered to recross the river, and at 4 o'clock, in a torrent of rain, the brigade forded the swollen stream and took its former position on the right, where it remained until January 6, when, passing through Murfreesborough, we encamped at this place.

During the long contest, and notwithstanding the extreme inclemency of the weather and the scarcity of provisions, no word of complaint was heard. Officers and men seemed alike anxious to do their full duty as patriot soldiers. In our advance they pushed forward boldly, and when greatly superior numbers were hurled against them they awaited the onset with the utmost coolness and determination. The temporary confusion which occurred when they fell back was caused, to a considerable extent, by the large force of skirmishers thrown out to check the enemy, having been driven toward the left, instead of directly upon their own regiments. The deliberation and order with which the Seventy-fourth Illinois retired is especially commended.

During the series of engagements the several regimental commanders displayed great persistence and resolution, and everywhere encouraged their men.

Too much praise cannot be awarded to the dauntless and skillful Captain Pinney, whose characteristic conduct elicited compliment even from his foes.

I herewith transmit the reports of the regimental and battery commanders, together with a full list of casualties.

The gallant bearing of Captain Hale, of the Seventy-fifth Illinois, who had chief command of the skirmishers; of Captain Litson, of the Twenty-second Indiana, and of Sergt. P. S. Ferguson, of Company G, Fifty-ninth Illinois, one of the skirmishers, is deserving of mention. Assistant Surgeon Corbus, of the Seventy-fifth Illinois, and Assistant Surgeon Bunce, of the Fifty-ninth Illinois, remained with and took care of our wounded while the fight was raging around them.

The zeal and decision shown by Lieutenants Jones, Hall, Hatch, and Baker, members of my staff, and the intrepidity of my faithful orderly, George Fogle, demand my highest commendation.

The names of the self-constituted messengers, who carried to Nashville, with such unparalleled celerity, the tidings of the battle of December 31, have already been forwarded. In the hour of trial, showing themselves false as the news they manufactured and disseminated, their infamy only makes more bright by contrast the imperishable record of those who nobly struggled or bravely fell in that unequal contest.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
P. SIDNEY POST,

*Colonel, Commanding First Brigade.*

Lieut. T. W. MORRISON,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, First Division.*

No. 21.

*Report of Capt. Hendrick E. Paine, Fifty-ninth Illinois Infantry.*

HDQRS. FIFTY-NINTH REGIMENT ILLINOIS VOLUNTEERS,  
*In Camp near Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 10, 1863.*

SIR: In compliance with an order from brigade headquarters, I respectfully submit the following report:

The regiment which I have the honor to command broke up camp, 7 miles south of Nashville, on the morning of the 26th of December, the men carrying three days' rations in their haversacks, all of our transportation and camp equipage having been ordered within the fortifications at Nashville.

As we approached Nolensville, my whole regiment was deployed as skirmishers, where we did efficient service in feeling for the enemy, and driving in his pickets, who took refuge in the houses on the outskirts of the town until they were finally driven out and repulsed. The regiment was then assembled, and formed the left of the line of battle of the First Brigade, as it moved upon the enemy's batteries and cavalry, south of the town, drawing him from his position with a loss of one or more of his guns. We lay on our arms that night and next day; moved forward and went into camp near Triune, where we remained all the day following. On the morning of the 29th took up our line of march toward Murfreesborough. The continued heavy firing in front gave evidence of the near proximity of the enemy. Bivouacked for the night, and next morning (30th), at an early hour, were on the march, moving by the front in line of battle. By noon it became evident that the enemy were in force in our front. At that time I was ordered, with my regiment, to support Captain Pinney's Fifth Wisconsin Battery. During the p. m. Captain Pinney opened on the enemy's battery, when my men were exposed to the shot and shell of the enemy's fire. After Captain Pinney had silenced or driven his battery from the field, we moved forward and bivouacked until morning. That night was very cold, and the men suffered very much from its effects. At daylight, on the morning of the 31st, we were in line of battle, in full view of the enemy, who appeared to be moving in strong force to our right. I was then ordered, together with Captain Pinney's battery, to hold ourselves as a reserve, and were moved a short distance to the rear; at the same time the line of battle was formed in our front, and the firing became heavy both on our right and left.

It soon became evident that the enemy was closely pressing our right, and our lines were rapidly extended in that direction. At the same time my regiment and Captain Pinney's battery were ordered to the front to engage the enemy across an open field. I immediately faced my command in the direction indicated, and moved forward in good order. At the same time the long lines of the enemy appeared on the opposite side of the field, moving directly to our front. When we approached within short musket range, I gave the order to fire, and lie down and load, which order was promptly responded to; at the same instant the enemy's balls came whistling over us in awful proximity to our heads. I do not know how long we remained in that position, but my men poured a deadly and destructive fire upon the enemy, who had laid down to avoid its terrible effects, until regiment after regiment on our right gave way, when I, reluctantly, received the order to fall back. At the same instant Captain Pinney was severely wounded, and the horses from two of his guns were either disabled or killed, when my men gallantly took hold and assisted to haul the guns from the field by hand, exposed all the while to a deadly fire of the enemy's musketry and grape and canister shot. We continued to move to the rear in reasonably good order, forming twice and firing upon the pursuing enemy, until we were beyond the range of his fire, when we formed and awaited the orders of our brigade commander. When the brigade was reformed, we took our position in line of battle in the front, where we remained during the remainder of the day and the succeeding night.

I cannot speak too highly in praise of the bravery displayed by the officers and men under my command. All nobly did their duty. To Capt. B. M. Veatch and James M. Stookey, acting field officers, I especially return my thanks for the efficient aid they rendered me, and the promptness with which they executed my orders during the series of

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

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

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

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

Respectfully,

I. M. KIRBY,

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

Capt. SAMUEL P. VORIS,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 27.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

penter again opened fire with such terrific effect that their yells of pain, terror, and anguish, as our shells exploded in their dense ranks, could be distinctly heard where we stood. So well was the battery served that their attack ceased, and darkness closed the conflict.

We slept on our arms without fires, prepared for the battle which we well knew would open on the morrow. During the night we discovered what appeared to me to be a continued movement of troops, which led me to believe that the enemy were massing troops on our right, which information I had the honor to report to my immediate superior, Brigadier-General Davis.

As soon as day dawned I examined the line of battle, and, as I had no supports, placed three pieces in battery on my left, and pointed out to Brigadier-General Sill the weakness of the line at this point, and requested him to order up some regiments of his brigade, held in reserve, to strengthen his right and protect my left, feeling certain that the enemy meditated an attack, and that it would be made at that place. He agreed with me, and immediately ordered up two regiments, which remained there but a short time, and then resumed their former positions as reserves. Deeming the knowledge of this fact of paramount importance, I dispatched a staff officer to Brigadier-General Davis to give him the information. Afterward the general informed me that I must hold the position as best I could, for he had no supports to send me.

Almost simultaneously with the withdrawal of the reserves ordered up by Brigadier-General Sill, the enemy made their attack in five heavy lines, and we were immediately engaged. **Captain Carpenter's battery** opened with terrific effect with grape and canister, and they were mowed down as grass beneath the sickle, while the infantry poured in a well-directed and very destructive fire. Sheltered by the rail fence, they were partially protected, and fired with the coolness of veterans.

As soon as the battle became general, the Twenty-fourth Wisconsin, which joined my left, gave way, leaving my battery and left flank exposed to an enfilading fire. I finally succeeded in rallying them as a reserve. At this moment the right of Brigadier-General Sill's brigade commenced to swing to the rear, and Colonel Carlin's was discovered falling steadily back.

I then received orders to take position to the rear, some 300 yards, in the belt of timber. I informed the staff officer who brought the order that we could maintain our position if supported. He said the order was peremptory, and I hastened to execute it, but not until I was flanked both on the right and left. The brigade moved to the rear in good order, and halted on the new line; but the right and left continuing the march, and being severely pressed, we made a vigorous charge and drove the enemy back in our front, and, strange to say, not only carried our point, but swung the enemy's lines upon right and left with it.

Had we been supported here, they would have been routed; as it was, we regained our position occupied when the battle opened, but could hold it but a moment, when we were forced to yield to superior numbers, and steadily fell back to the ground from which the charge was first made. From this point we charged a second time, compelling the enemy to yield ground, but our ammunition beginning to fail, and no wagons to be found from which to replenish the stock, the brigade was ordered to hold its position as best it could, and, if pressed too hard, to fall steadily back until the battery could be got into position to protect their movement across the cotton-field. I placed the battery in position, and gave the officer in command (Sergeant German) directions where to

fire, pointing out to him the position of the brigade, and what he was required to do.

The ammunition of the regiments now entirely failing, and a perfect rout appearing to have taken place, the brigade fell back to the ground occupied by them on the morning of Tuesday. At this time the whole wing was in the utmost confusion, and I used every endeavor to rally and organize them, but without avail. There seemed to be no fear, no panic, but a stolid indifference, which was unaccountable. Officers and men passed to the rear; no words or exhortation could prevent them. In three different positions I used every exertion to reform our lines, but it became impossible. Reaching the Murfreesborough pike, a stampede or panic commenced in the wagon-train, but, succeeding in getting a regiment across the road, it was stopped, and, by a vigorous charge of cavalry, saved from the enemy.

We were then placed in reserve to our division along the Murfreesborough pike, and there waited in anxious expectation to make or repel attacks until the afternoon of Friday, when we were ordered to move in double-quick to the extreme left, to support the division which was being driven in by the enemy, and, although fatigued and worn out by exposure to the rain, without tents or blankets, for seven days, and want of sleep (two days of which time we had had nothing to eat but parched corn), the command, with yells of joy, rushed forward, and, after fording the river three times, pushed the enemy back with the greatest rapidity, the ground being covered with rebel<sup>1</sup> dead and wounded. We went into position about 2 miles from the ford, and on the extreme left. During the night we threw up an abatis of rails, and laid on our arms, without fires, in a drenching rain.

The next morning (Saturday, January 3) we expected an attack, but none occurred during the day. That night we changed position to the right again, nothing but picket skirmishing having occurred during the day. When the morning of Saturday passed without an attack, I became satisfied in my own mind that the enemy were evacuating Murfreesborough, and so expressed it.

I cannot speak in too high terms of the gallant conduct of the officers and men under my command. If indomitable daring, cool courage, and invincible bravery in the midst of the turmoil of such a battle, when all space seemed occupied by some deadly missile, amid carnage and noise, be any proof of heroism, they certainly possess it. Many instances of personal daring and feats of individual prowess were visibly performed, but I must refer you to the reports of subordinate commanders for names and instances.

To the officers and men of the Twenty-fifth and Thirty-fifth Illinois Regiments and **Eighth Wisconsin Battery** I owe especial thanks for the determined bravery and chivalric heroism they evinced throughout; and also to the officers and men of the Eighty-first Indiana, a new regiment, the first time under fire, who, with but a few exceptions, manfully fronted the storm of battle, and gave earnest proof of what may hereafter be expected of them.

I desire to call the attention of the commanding officer to the gallant conduct of Lieutenant-Colonel Chandler, commanding the Thirty-fifth Illinois, whose cool, steady courage, admirable deportment, and skillful management evinced the soldier, true and tried, and who at all times proved himself worthy of the trust he holds. Major McIlwain, of the same regiment, I cannot praise too much; his good management and skillful handling of the skirmishers, of which he was in charge, elicited enco-

miums of well-merited compliment—at all times cool, determined, and persevering. Lieutenant-Colonel Timberlake and Major Woodbury, of the Eighty-first Indiana, displayed manly courage, and held their regiment firm and steady under heavy fire; for officers young in the service their efforts are worthy of imitation. Capt. W. Taggart, who succeeded to the command of the Twenty-fifth Illinois Regiment, behaved as a soldier should, everywhere efficient, and ever ready to execute orders. First Sergeant German, of the *Eighth Wisconsin Battery*, merits much praise for the cool, skillful, and determined manner in which he served his battery after he succeeded to the command.

To my staff, Capt. George Austin, acting assistant adjutant-general; Capt. A. C. Keys, Lieut. C. P. Ford, Lieut. John F. Isom, Lieut. William R. McChesney, and Lieut. H. S. Park, I owe especial thanks for the manner they served upon the field, carrying my orders, wherever required, through a storm of shot, shells, and bullets, regardless of all save the performance of their duty.

During the conflict it became necessary, in the absence of staff officers on duty, to make use of orderlies to supply their places. In connection herewith I take great pleasure in testifying to the brave conduct of Orderlies A. T. Greeman and Abijah Lee, on my escort.

Amid the glorious results of a battle won, it gives me pain to record the names of the gallant men who offered up their lives on the altar of their country; but we must drop the tear of sorrow over their resting-place, and offer our heartfelt sympathies to their relatives and friends, trusting that God will care for them and soothe their afflictions. And while we remember the noble dead, let us pay a tribute of respect to the gallant Col. T. D. Williams, Twenty-fifth Illinois Regiment, who died in the performance of his duty. He fell with his regimental colors in his hands, exclaiming, "We will plant it here, boys, and rally the old Twenty-fifth around it, and here we will die." Such conduct is above all praise, and words can paint no eulogium worthy of the subject. And here let me call the attention to the conduct of Captain Carpenter, of the *Eighth Wisconsin Battery*, who fell gallantly serving his guns until the enemy were within a few yards of their muzzles. He died as a soldier would wish to die, with his face to the foe, in the smoke and din of battle.

The casualties of the command are small in comparison to the fire they received and the service done.

The Thirty-fifth Illinois lost 2 commissioned officers wounded, 8 privates killed, 49 wounded, and 32 missing; the Twenty-fifth Illinois, 1 commissioned officer killed and 3 wounded, 14 privates killed, 69 wounded, and 35 missing; the Eighty-first Indiana, 2 commissioned officers killed, 2 wounded, and 1 missing, 3 privates killed, 40 wounded, and 39 missing; the *Eighth Wisconsin Battery*, 1 commissioned officer killed, 4 privates wounded, and 19 missing. Total, 4 commissioned officers killed, 7 wounded, and 1 missing; 25 privates killed, 162 wounded, and 125 missing. Aggregate killed, wounded, and missing, 324.\*

I hope a portion of those missing may yet return, as all cannot have been made prisoners.

I have the honor to submit the above report to your consideration, and remain, dear sir, yours, most respectfully,

W. E. WOODRUFF,  
Colonel, Commanding Third Brigade.

Lieut. T. W. MORRISON,  
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, First Division.

\* But see revised statement, p. 208.

No. 28.

*Report of Capt. Wesford Taggart, Twenty-fifth Illinois Infantry.*

HDQRS. TWENTY-FIFTH REGIMENT ILLINOIS VOLS.,  
THIRD BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION, RIGHT WING,  
Camp near Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 8, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor of submitting to you the following report of the operations of the Twenty-fifth Regiment Illinois Infantry during the late battle before Murfreesborough, Tenn.:

The regiment left camp, near Nashville, Tenn., at 6.30 a. m. December 26, 1862, under command of Maj. R. H. Nodine, and, after a march of 10 miles, in company with balance of brigade, encountered a force of the enemy near Nolensville.

About 3 p. m. were deployed on the right of the brigade; Companies A, I, and K were thrown out to the front as skirmishers. After sharp action, of about two hours' duration, the enemy were driven back, and we bivouacked for the night on the field, the rain falling in torrents. Took 1 prisoner of the Eighth Texas Cavalry.

At 7 a. m. on the 27th resumed the march at a distance of 10 miles, encamping near Triune, Col. Thomas D. Williams assuming command early in the morning, Major Nodine being detailed on the staff of Major-General McCook.

At 6 a. m. on the 29th resumed the march; encamped on Stone's River. Distance marched, 15 miles. Detailed five companies as advanced picket.

At 3 p. m. on the 30th fell into line. At 8 a. m. marched in close column, by division, in company with rest of brigade. After marching a distance of 1½ miles, arrived at the front; deployed in line of battle, the men stripping knapsacks. Company A, under command of Lieut. T. H. West, was deployed to the front as skirmishers, and immediately afterward joined by Companies I and K, under command of Capt. Samuel Houston and Lieut. M. B. Thompson. These companies, in conjunction with others of the brigade, continued skirmishing until dark, driving the enemy's skirmishers into his main line, Company A losing 6 men wounded, Company I 2 killed and 3 wounded, and Company K 1 wounded.

The regiment advanced in line of battle into a strip of timber, and, covered under shelter of a rail fence, a corn-field of about 150 yards in width separating our forces from that of the enemy, Company A was thrown out to the front as skirmishers a distance of 60 yards. The regiment lay in this position until 3 a. m. of the 31st, at which time it was called into line, the Thirty-fifth Illinois on our right and the Eighty-first Indiana on our left, supporting the *Eighth Wisconsin Battery*. At daybreak a line of the enemy's skirmishers advancing, opened fire on our skirmishers, and were followed immediately afterward by their main body advancing in four consecutive lines of battle diagonally on our left. A change of front was ordered by Colonel Williams, which was executed under a heavy fire of musketry. Our regiment then opened a murderous fire on the enemy, completely checking him, and finally driving him back in confusion. The enemy immediately made another advance, and were received with a terrific fire of musketry. Our regiment was, however, forced back a short distance.

At this time, while bravely rallying his men, Colonel Williams fell mortally wounded by a musket-ball passing through his right breast. He was carried from the field immediately. I then assumed command of the regiment, which by this time had fallen back a distance of 150

paces from the first position. I rallied the men, and, finding them almost destitute of ammunition, immediately dispatched a messenger to General Woodruff to report the fact; then ordered bayonets to be fixed, and charged on the enemy once more, driving him from the field and retaking one Parrott gun, which had been taken by the enemy from the **Eighth Wisconsin Battery**; also capturing a number of prisoners.

At this time, finding all our supplies gone, and flanked on the left, the enemy's lines having passed us on the right, and being unable to communicate with General Woodruff, I assumed the responsibility of withdrawing the regiment in good order to the rear of a battery placed on a commanding eminence, taking with us the piece retaken from the enemy, but which we were forced to leave after taking it about 300 yards, on account of a destructive fire being opened on us from one of the enemy's batteries.

At this point I reported in person to Major-General McCook that we were out of ammunition, and was ordered by him to retire to the ammunition train in the rear. Did so, and supplied ourselves with ammunition. Then, in obedience to orders, took position on the Murfreesborough pike, remaining there until 10 a. m. of January 1, 1863.

At this time received orders from General Woodruff to fall back a distance of 300 paces and erect barricades. Did so, remaining there until 4 p. m. of the 2d instant.

At this time received orders to fall in line, cross Stone's River, and participate in the action going on on the left. Moved forward at a double-quick a distance of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles, wading the river three times, the last time under a heavy fire of shot and shell from the enemy's battery, placed on an eminence directly in front of our regiment; formed line of battle, and moved forward at a double-quick, charging on the enemy, who, however, speedily retreated. After going a distance of 300 yards in the open field, I halted the regiment, threw out a party of skirmishers in front, built a strong line of barricades, and bivouacked on the field of battle.

At daylight of the 3d instant the enemy's sharpshooters, who were concealed in the timbers, opened fire on the regiment, keeping it up until dark, wounding 2 of our men. Remained on the field until 4 a. m. of the 4th instant; then received orders to recross the river and go into camp on the Nashville pike, which we did.

Col. Thomas D. Williams acted with great courage, coolness, and bravery until he fell. Capt. Samuel D. Wall was severely wounded while gallantly doing duty as a field officer. He was carried from the field. Lieutenants Dickson and Hastings were also severely wounded while nobly discharging their duty, and were carried from the field.

To the officers and men of the regiment I am deeply indebted for the coolness and bravery shown on every side, all doing nobly.

There were present with the regiment the following commissioned officers: Capts. S. D. Wall, S. Houston, B. F. Ford, Z. Hall, and J. Smart, Adj. G. W. Flynn, First Lieuts. T. H. West, T. J. McKibben, E. Hall, A. Varner, W. J. Sallee, J. H. Hastings, and Second Lieuts. A. Martin, J. C. Gundy, M. B. Thompson, Thomas W. Braselton, S. Dickson, and A. H. South. Our loss is: Killed, 15; wounded, 68; missing, 25.\*

Very respectfully,

WESFORD TAGGART,

*Captain Twenty-fifth Illinois, Commanding Regiment.*

Lieut. G. W. FLYNN,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

\* But see revised statement, p. 208.

No. 29.

*Report of Lieut. Col. William P. Chandler, Thirty-fifth Illinois Infantry.*

HEADQUARTERS THIRTY-FIFTH ILLINOIS VOLUNTEERS,  
*Camp near Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 3, 1863.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by this regiment in the movements and battles occurring from the time of taking up camp at Saint James Chapel, on December 26, 1862, to the evacuation of Murfreesborough by the enemy, on January 3, 1863:

December 26, the regiment was on picket duty, and, after the division passed outside the lines on the Nolensville pike, formed the rear guard. The roads being very bad, the train did not close up at night, and the command was placed in position to protect it.

December 27, moved forward at daylight and joined the brigade before marching. Moved forward on the road to Triune, about 6 miles, and halted for the night.

December 28, remained in camp.

December 29, marched at daylight on the road to Lane's Store. Brigade formed the advance at Stewart's Creek, and slept on our arms at night.

December 30, formed line of battle at 10 a. m. and advanced on the enemy's lines. Major McIlwain was placed in command of skirmishers of the brigade, and toward night was sharply engaged. Had 4 men wounded. Laid on our arms at night.

December 31, skirmishing commenced at daylight. About sunrise the enemy advanced obliquely in strong force, striking first the Eighty-first Indiana and next the Twenty-fifth Illinois Volunteers, causing them to retire from their position. Soon coming within range of our rifled muskets, we opened a murderous fire on their flank, checking their advance, and enabling the Twenty-fifth and Eighty-first to regain the ground lost. Our loss in the first charge of the enemy was light, owing to a strong position we had on the cedar ridge. Soon, however, the enemy reformed his broken lines, appearing with fresh troops on our right, and made a second desperate charge on our lines, causing them to waver and fall back, but again they were repulsed with terrible slaughter and our original position regained, except on the right, from which I had been retiring, by orders of the brigade commander, and, in obedience to those orders, I retired to the point of timber in rear of the cotton-field, my right being hotly pressed by the enemy, and the whole line under heavy fire of the enemy's batteries. On reaching the timber, the regiment was halted, and messengers sent for ammunition, but, owing to the confusion on our right, where the train had been parked, none could be procured. Having received no orders from the brigade commander in relation to the point to which I should retire, I governed my movements by the left of Carlin's brigade, and so continued to do until nearly reaching the Nashville pike, when other troops and batteries crowding in, separated us. I directed Major McIlwain to report to Colonel Carlin and find out his position, with the intention of forming the brigade (then acting under my orders) on his left; but before his return was obliged to change my position, to give room to other troops then forming in line of battle. I moved the troops a short distance to the rear, procured and distributed ammunition, and, moving to the right and front, formed on the left of Carlin's brigade, and remained in that position until nearly night, when Colonel Woodruff, returning, assumed

At 3 a. m. (31st) General Sill came down to the regiment and said we would be supported from the reserve brigade. The men were then awake and ready for action. At early dawn two regiments came into the woods and formed line at right angles with my left. They remained a few moments, and were marched away.

Soon after, firing began, and the pickets were driven in by the enemy's skirmishers directly in my front. Their column of attack came close on the rear of their skirmishers, and I ordered the men to fire. At the same time my attention was directed to a column coming out of the wood on my right flank. They were in line and advancing very rapidly. (I counted five battle-flags.) I immediately sent word to General Sill that the enemy were in force on my flank. About the same time the regiment on my right, formed at right angles, fell back; a battery, which had fired four rounds very effectively, followed them, leaving my flank entirely unprotected. I maintained my position, waiting for orders, until the enemy were in the woods in my rear, and had come on my flank and delivered a cross-fire, doing me considerable damage. No orders having been received, and thinking it improper to remain longer in this position, I ordered the regiment to break to the rear by companies. Some of the officers not hearing the order, the left wing did not move with the right, and the regiment came off in some disorder, but was quickly reformed in the open field to the right of the log-house used for a hospital. No regiment could have formed line more rapidly than they did, after retreating, surrounded on all sides by confused masses of fugitives—the veterans of some of the hardest battles of the war. Where such troops flee, new recruits assuredly deserve praise for standing their ground.

I then received the first orders during the day from Colonel Greusel to move my regiment up to a fence and have them lie down. My left then formed on the right of the Fifteenth Missouri. An order given by Colonel Schaefer for that regiment to move, left me entirely alone, unless I advanced with them, which was done. Moving up to the second fence in my front, I again ordered the men to lie down.

Soon after, an aide from General Sheridan directed me to move my regiment up to the woods. The order was obeyed, when I joined the Eighty-eighth Illinois, and was thereafter under the immediate command of Colonel Greusel. By his direction, we marched through the cedar swamp, a terrific fire of artillery and infantry roaring all around us. I crossed the railroad and marched up the Murfreesborough pike, placed my men, as per orders from him, in a thicket, with directions to deploy skirmishers and watch for the enemy's cavalry, which was annoying our train. Remained in this position some time. Was ordered up still farther to the right, and placed behind a rail fence, which position I occupied for about one hour. Again moving up the pike, by Colonel Greusel's direction, I supported one gun of the First Ohio Battery. Night coming on, I was directed to post three companies as pickets, keeping the remainder in reserve.

On the morning of January 1, 1863, under direction of Colonel Greusel, I brought the regiment back to the pike, and, following the Eighty-eighth Illinois, marched down to the cedar swamp, a mile beyond Stone's River, with orders to erect temporary breastworks. In this position I remained until the evening of the 2d, when, by directions of the colonel commanding, I moved my regiment on to the grounds occupied by a regiment on my right, which had marched.

On the morning of the 3d, I marched again, by directions of the brigade commander, to the left of Bush's battery, my right resting on the Thirty-

sixth Illinois, in which position we remained until we marched to this our present camp.

I cannot too highly speak of the men who passed through all the trials of the two days' fighting and the following four days of suspense, worse than the battle itself. Exhausted and cold, they stood their ground like veterans, and fought as good soldiers.

I desire to make special mention of the conduct of Captains Root, Austin, and Philbrook, and Lieutenants Balding, Chase, Nix, Chivas, Hartung, Goldsmith, Horning, Elmore, Parsons, Battle, Kennedy, Holton, and Greene. The surgeons (Major Hasse and Captain Wheeler) were not under my immediate observation, but I am informed they performed their duties nobly. To the chaplain of the regiment I return thanks for his kind attention to the wounded.

To the adjutant of the regiment (Arthur MacArthur, jr.) I am more than indebted for his aid and efficient service rendered during the engagements. Young and gallant, I bespeak for him an honorable career. Of the sergeant-major (Frank W. Riddle) and Sergeants Drake and Kerston I would make favorable mention. Sergeant Coburn, of Company A, deserves special notice for bringing off the body of Lieutenant Nix, mortally wounded.

Inclosing you a list of the casualties,\* and desiring, on behalf of the officers of the regiment, to acknowledge our indebtedness to the colonel commanding the brigade for his care and attention after assuming command, I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

E. C. HIBBARD,

*Major, Commanding Twenty-fourth Wisconsin.*

Lieutenant WATKINS,

*Actg. Asst. Adj. Gen., First Brigade, Third Division.*

No. 59.

*Report of Lieut. Col. Bernard Laiboldt, Second Missouri Infantry, commanding Second Brigade.*

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THIRD DIV., RIGHT WING,  
*January 7, 1863.*

I have the honor to submit to you a report of the part taken by the brigade I now have the honor to command, in the battle in front of Murfreesborough:

The brigade, then in command of the lamented Col. Frederick Schaefer, was assigned position as reserve of the Third Division on December 30, and took no part in the engagement on the left on that day.

Shortly after daybreak next morning, December 31, Colonel Schaefer received orders to re-enforce General Sill's brigade with two regiments, and the Fifteenth Missouri Volunteers and Forty-fourth Illinois Volunteers, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Weber, of the Fifteenth Missouri Volunteers, were accordingly sent to General Sill, with orders to report to him for duty.

The Second Battalion of the Seventy-third Illinois Volunteers, under command of Major Presson, was detached to protect Captain Hescocock's battery, while the other battalion of the Seventy-third Illinois Volunteers and the Second Regiment Missouri Volunteers were held in reserve.

\* Embodied in revised statement, p. 209.

The Fifteenth Missouri Volunteers and Forty-fourth Illinois Volunteers had a position assigned to them, about 30 yards in rear of General Sill's brigade, when, after a short interval, Lieutenant-Colonel Weber received orders to advance in double-quick. The order was promptly executed, and Lieutenant-Colonel Weber found himself in front of the enemy, the artillery previously stationed there having retreated, leaving one Parrott gun, supposed to belong to **Carpenter's battery**, Davis' division, behind. The two mentioned regiments kept up a strong firing, and even when one regiment on their left broke and ran, they held their position until attacked from the flank and front at once. Lieutenant-Colonel Weber then retreated in good order, keeping up a constant firing until he, being heavily pressed by the enemy, reached a corn-field, where he halted.

Soon afterward our troops on the left advanced again on the enemy, when Lieutenant-Colonel Weber also rapidly advanced to a place about 50 yards in advance of his previous position, and formed in line of battle. He had the gun above referred to dragged by his men to the rear of his column, from where it afterward was removed to a safer place. Lieutenant-Colonel Weber contested his ground admirably until the enemy advanced six columns deep, and the ammunition of the Fifteenth Missouri Volunteers gave out, the Forty-fourth Illinois Volunteers having previously withdrawn. Then the order to retreat was given and carried out, without improper haste, until the edge of the timber was reached, when the pressure by the enemy was so hard that it became necessary to resort to the double-quick. By the time the Fifteenth Missouri Volunteers and Forty-fourth Illinois Volunteers rejoined the brigade, orders were given to retreat across the pike toward a piece of cedar woods, and two companies of the Second Missouri Volunteers were deployed as skirmishers to retard the rapid advance of the enemy.

The whole brigade, with the exception of the First Battalion of the Seventy-third Illinois Volunteers, under temporary command of Captain Bergan, and being a short distance from the main body, arrived safely at the woods above mentioned, at the edge of which the Second Missouri Volunteers, behind natural and very favorable fortifications of huge and deeply cut rocks, opened a brisk fire on the enemy, which kept him at bay for a considerable length of time. The First Battalion of the Seventy-third Illinois Volunteers was at the same time attacked by the enemy, but repulsed them. When in the attempt to join the brigade, the battalion was, by the advance of General Rousseau, separated, but, keeping up a constant firing, crossed the pike and took a position in the cedar grove. Here Captain Bergan, commanding the battalion, withstood three different charges of a whole rebel cavalry brigade, and was shortly afterward enabled to join his brigade. By this time the ammunition of the Second Missouri Volunteers had given out, as well as that of the rest of the brigade, and they were ordered into the thicket of the cedar grove.

After the lapse of one hour, the brigade was enabled to receive ammunition, and had a new position assigned to them on the Chattanooga Railroad. Colonel Schaefer ordered the Fifteenth Missouri Volunteers to deploy in a corn-field, while the balance of the brigade held the railroad and kept up such a galling and well-aimed fire that the enemy, though of a strength to which our force was hardly comparable, and fighting with the utmost desperation, was again and again repulsed. The Fifteenth Missouri Volunteers, being in danger of being outflanked, retreated toward the position of the brigade, and it was at that moment, when about giving orders to said regiment, that the true soldier and

brave man, my lamented predecessor, Col. Frederick Schaefer, fell. By order of General Sheridan, I assumed forthwith the command of the brigade, the Thirty-sixth Illinois Volunteers, commanded by Captain Olson, having been attached to it; and, after taking up another favorable position on the line of the railroad, I was enabled to hold the enemy in check, in spite of his desperate endeavors, until night broke in and the bloody drama of that day was ended.

On January 1, 1863, at 2 a. m., my brigade was ordered to take a position in front of an open field edged by heavy timber, and I had, as soon as daylight permitted, heavy breastworks erected along the whole front I was to protect; and, keeping a vigilant lookout, I held that position until January 6, when I was ordered to advance to the present camp.

The officers and men of the brigade all behaved as would naturally be expected of veteran soldiers who have heretofore earned the highest praise for their bravery and gallantry, and to enumerate single ones would hardly be in justice to the balance.

Among those who laid down their lives for our holy cause, I particularly lament Captain Zimmerman and Lieutenants Kellner and Quintzius, of the Fifteenth Missouri Volunteers; Captain Alsop, of the Seventy-third Illinois Volunteers; Captain Hosmer, of the Forty-fourth Illinois Volunteers; Lieutenant Taliaferro, of the First Missouri Artillery. May their relatives find a consolation, as their comrades do, in the thought that the death on the battle-field for the righteous cause wins immortal laurels for the slain.

I cannot omit to mention Captain Hescok's battery, which, on December 31, as oftentimes before, did splendid execution. The skill and bravery of its officers is almost proverbial, and need not be further commented on by me than to express my heartiest gratification that they stood by me, as formerly, with a right good will and telling courage.

Inclosed I have the honor to transmit a list of the casualties in my brigade.\*

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

B. LAIBOLDT,

*Lieutenant-Colonel Second Missouri Volunteer Infantry,  
Commanding Second Brigade, Third Division, Right Wing.*

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

No. 60.

*Report of Maj. Francis Ehrler, Second Missouri Infantry.*

\*CAMP BRADLEY, AT STONE'S RIVER,  
*South of Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 10, 1863.*

SIR: I have the honor to hereby most respectfully transmit to you a report, inasmuch as the Second Infantry Regiment of Missouri Volunteers was concerned in the battle in front of Murfreesborough, Tenn., on the 31st ultimo.

We received marching orders on the 24th of December, when in camp near Mill Creek, 7 miles south of Nashville. All the wagons, with tents and other baggage, should, as soon as the troops commenced to move,

\* Embodied in revised statement, p. 209.