

THE
WAR OF THE REBELLION:

A COMPILATION OF THE

OFFICIAL RECORDS

OF THE

UNION AND CONFEDERATE ARMIES.

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

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

PURSUANT TO ACTS OF CONGRESS.

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

WASHINGTON:
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- Nov. 25, 1862.—Skirmish at Clarksville, Tenn.
 26, 1862.—Lieutenant-General Polk assumes command of "Polk's Corps," Army of Tennessee.
 26-27, 1862.—Reconnaissance to La Vergne, Tenn., and skirmish.
 26-30, 1862.—Operations about Springfield, Tenn.
 26-Dec. 1, 1862.—Expedition from Edgefield to Harpeth Shoals, Clarksville, &c., Tenn.
 27, 1862.—Skirmish at Mill Creek, Tenn.
 28, 1862.—Skirmishes on the Carthage road, near Hartsville and Rome, Tenn.
 29-Dec. 1, 1862.—Reconnaissance from Stewart's Ferry, Stone's River, to Baird's Mills, Tenn., and skirmishes *en route*.
 Dec. 1, 1862.—Skirmish near Nolensville, Tenn.
 3, 1862.—Attack on Union forage train on the Hardin pike, near Nashville, Tenn.
 4, 1862.—General Joseph E. Johnston, C. S. Army, assumes the command to which he was assigned November 24.
 Skirmish in Floyd County, Ky.
 Skirmish on the Franklin pike, near Holly Tree Gap, Tenn.
 Capture of outpost near Stewart's Ferry (or Ford), Stone's River, Tenn.
 4-5, 1862.—Capture of transports, and skirmishes near Prestonburg, Ky.
 6, 1862.—Skirmish near Kimbrough's Mill, Mill Creek, Tenn.
 7, 1862.—Action at Hartsville, Tenn.
 9, 1862.—Skirmish at Dobbins' Ferry, near La Vergne, Tenn.
 Reconnaissance toward Franklin, and skirmish near Brentwood, Tenn.
 11, 1862.—Skirmish at La Vergne, Tenn.
 Skirmish near Nashville, Tenn.
 11-12, 1862.—Reconnaissance from Nashville to Franklin, Tenn., and skirmishes on the Wilson Creek pike and at Franklin.
 12, 1862.—Skirmishes at Cherokee Station and Little Bear Creek, Ala.*
 14, 1862.—Attack on forage train and skirmish on the Franklin pike, near Nashville, Tenn.
 15-16, 1862.—Violation of flag of truce.
 20, 1862-Jan. 5, 1863.—Carter's raid into East Tennessee and Southwest Virginia.
 21, 1862.—Skirmish on the Wilson Creek pike, Tenn.
 22, 1862-Jan. 2, 1863.—Morgan's second Kentucky raid.
 23, 1862.—Lieut. Gen. E. Kirby Smith, C. S. Army, resumes command of the Department of East Tennessee.
 Skirmish near Nashville, Tenn.
 24, 1862.—Skirmish near Nashville, Tenn.
 24, 1862-Jan. 1, 1863.—Expedition into East Tennessee, and skirmish at Perkins' Mill, on Elk Fork, December 28.
 25, 1862.—Skirmish on the Wilson Creek pike, between Brentwood and Petersburg, Tenn.
 Skirmish at Prim's blacksmith shop, Edmondson pike, Tenn.
 26, 1862.—Capture of guerrilla camp in Powell County, Ky.
 Mutiny of the Anderson Cavalry.†
 26, 1862-Jan. 5, 1863.—The Stone's River, or Murfreesborough, Tenn., Campaign.

* See reconnaissance from Corinth, Miss., toward Tusculumbia, Ala., &c., December 9-14, Series I, Vol. XVII, Part I, p. 541.

† See report of Maj. Nelson H. Davis, February 4, 1863, in "Correspondence, etc.," Part II, of this volume.

- Jan. 8-14, 1863.—Wheeler's raid, including affairs at Mill Creek, Harpeth Shoals, and Ashland, Tenn.
 9, 1863.—The Army of the Cumberland divided into three army corps, the Fourteenth, Twentieth, and Twenty-first, under Maj. Gens. George H. Thomas, Alexander McD. McCook, and Thomas L. Crittenden.
 10, 1863.—Skirmish at Clifton, Tenn.
 13-15, 1863.—Reconnaissance from Murfreesborough to Nolensville and Versailles, Tenn.
 13-19, 1863.—Reconnaissance from Nashville to Harpeth River and Cumberland River Shoals, Tenn.
 17, 1863.—Brig. Gen. D. S. Donelson, C. S. Army, assigned to command of the Department of East Tennessee, vice Brigadier-General Heth, ordered to Virginia.
 19, 1863.—Skirmish near Woodbury, Tenn.

NOVEMBER 5, 1862.—Action at Nashville, Tenn.

REPORTS.

- No. 1.—Brig. Gen. James S. Negley, U. S. Army.
 No. 2.—Col. Robert F. Smith, Sixteenth Illinois Infantry.
 No. 3.—General Braxton Bragg, C. S. Army, commanding Army of Tennessee.
 No. 4.—Brig. Gen. Nathan B. Forrest, C. S. Army, commanding cavalry.

No. 1.

Report of Brig. Gen. James S. Negley, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES FORCES,
 Nashville, Tenn., November 5, 1862.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose you an official report of a small affair with the enemy to-day. I do not apprehend an attack upon Nashville in force before the arrival of re-enforcements. The enemy continue to concentrate troops at Murfreesborough and toward Nashville. Their force positively exceeds 25,000, of which at least 5,000 are cavalry. They have about forty pieces of artillery, and it is now certain that a portion of Bragg's army is at Murfreesborough; but whether they will maintain a position at Murfreesborough or this side is not plainly indicated by their present operations. Their cavalry approach our lines daily, and are engaged in driving off stock and negroes. My command is in fine spirits and the transportation in excellent condition.

With assurances of high personal esteem, I am, yours, very truly,
 JAS. S. NEGLEY,
 Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieutenant-Colonel DUCAT,
 Chief of Staff.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES FORCES,
 Nashville, Tenn., November 5, 1862.

SIR: This morning at 2 o'clock Forrest's (rebel) cavalry, numbering about 3,000, with four pieces of artillery, opened a sharp fire on our

picket line, on the south, between the Franklin and Lebanon pikes. The picket line on the Murfreesborough road gradually withdrew, for the purpose of bringing the enemy under the guns of Fort Negley, two of which were opened upon the enemy and drove him speedily beyond the range.

Almost simultaneously with the attack on the south, John Morgan's forces (2,500 strong, with one piece of artillery) made a dash on Colonel Smith's command, on the north side of the river, with the evident intention of destroying the railroad and pontoon bridges. After a sharp contest, in which several companies of Illinois troops behaved with great gallantry, Morgan was repulsed, leaving a stand of regimental colors in our hands, 5 killed, and 19 wounded. He then burned an old railroad building in Edgefield and retreated to Gallatin.

Finding the enemy on the south taking a position beyond our picket lines, Colonel Roberts, with two regiments of infantry and one section of artillery, was ordered to advance on the Murfreesborough road, while I took the Sixty-ninth Ohio Infantry, with a portion of the Seventy-eighth Pennsylvania, Fourteenth Michigan, and Colonels Stokes' and Wynkoop's cavalry, with two sections of artillery, numbering, in all, about 1,400 men, and pursued that portion of the enemy on the Franklin pike. They were speedily driven from every position by our artillery until we reached a distance of 7 miles from the city. Colonel Stokes' cavalry was here directed to charge upon the enemy's rear and then retreat, with a view of bringing him to a stand; but the main body of the enemy, with their artillery, had suddenly turned into a lane to the left, while our cavalry, in the excitement of the chase, pursued a small portion of the enemy within 5 miles of Franklin, capturing some prisoners, killing several, and taking a drove of cattle. Previous to the return of Stokes' cavalry, the enemy appeared in considerable force upon our left, front, and rear, with the evident intention of cutting off the cavalry and our retreat. The infantry and artillery were immediately moved forward a mile, to the support of our cavalry, which was ordered to rejoin the column immediately.

Upon receiving intelligence from my vedettes that the enemy was in force a mile to our rear, masking a battery close to the road, the head of the column was immediately placed to the rear and hastened forward to the position occupied by the enemy, fortunately getting our artillery into position and action, forcing the enemy to retire, which he did in great confusion and with considerable loss, after which he succeeded in getting his artillery into position, and a brisk firing ensued for about half an hour, during which time our forces had to be frequently shifted, to avoid their range.

Ascertaining that the enemy greatly outnumbered our force, and were aiming to make a charge on both of our flanks, the troops were slowly retired, upon favorable ground, toward the city. At the same time the cavalry was so disposed as to divert the coming charge of the enemy on our rear, and lead them upon the Fourteenth Michigan Infantry. The object succeeded admirably, an entire regiment of cavalry making the charge receiving a fire so destructive as to drive them back in great disorder. The enemy then planted several guns on the turnpike, which were driven off before they could charge their pieces. Our forces then retired in good order toward the city, the enemy making one more attempt to get in our rear, nearer the city, but were immediately driven off by a regiment of infantry and a section of artillery, which had been ordered forward as a reserve. The concerted plans of the enemy, who

had Hanson's brigade of four Kentucky regiments and two Tennessee regiments of infantry, with five batteries of artillery, were defeated, and enabled our troops to give an additional proof of their efficiency and valor.

As we did not reoccupy the field of action, the enemy's total loss is unknown, but is represented by prisoners to have been large. Twenty-three prisoners were captured, including 2 captains of Morgan's artillery. Our casualties of the day were 26 wounded and 19 missing.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JAS. S. NEGLEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Lieutenant-Colonel DUCAT,
Chief of Staff.

No. 2.

Report of Col. Robert F. Smith, Sixteenth Illinois Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTEENTH ILLINOIS VOLUNTEERS,
Edgefield, Tenn., November 5, 1862.

SIR: In compliance with orders received from brigade headquarters, I have the honor to report, for the information of the general commanding, that this morning, about daylight, the rebel force, under General Morgan, numbering not less than 2,000, attacked my pickets at the railroad station, and succeeded in surrounding the company stationed there (Company E, Sixteenth Illinois, Captain Wilson). The outposts were immediately called in by Captain Wilson, and, after a severe skirmish, the company succeeded in cutting its way through the enemy and reaching camp. Company K, Sixteenth Illinois, under command of First Lieutenant Woodall, with 10 men of Company D, under Lieutenant Sommerville, who were stationed on the White's Creek pike, were now completely cut off from camp, but all succeeded in returning safely by reaching the river and marching under the shelter of its bank to the intrenchments.

Company C, Captain Rowe, which was stationed on the Gallatin pike, had by this time attacked and driven back the enemy's left, when the right also fell back, leaving 5 of their wounded in our hands.

We took from the enemy, besides the wounded, 2 prisoners, 2 horses, bridles, saddles, &c., and one regimental flag.

The officers and men engaged all behaved with unusual coolness and bravery, especially Companies E and C.

I cannot close my report without mentioning the excellent conduct of the mounted scouts belonging to Captain Twyman's independent command. I have rarely seen their equal for bravery and efficiency.

The casualties in my command are as follows: Wounded, 5; missing, and probably taken prisoners, 6.

I am, with much respect, your obedient servant,

R. F. SMITH,

Colonel, Commanding Sixteenth Illinois Volunteers and Post.

ACTING ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Second Brigade, First Division, Army of the Mississippi.

SECOND (LATE EIGHTH) DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JAMES S. NEGLEY.

First (late Twenty-fifth) Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JAMES G. SPEARS.

1st Tennessee, Col. Robert K. Byrd.
2d Tennessee, Lieut. Col. James M. Melton.
3d Tennessee, Col. Leonidas C. Houk.
5th Tennessee, Col. James T. Shelley.
6th Tennessee, Col. Joseph A. Cooper.

Second (late Twenty-ninth) Brigade.

Col. TIMOTHY R. STANLEY.

19th Illinois:
Col. Joseph R. Scott.
Lieut. Col. Alexander W. Raffan.
11th Michigan, Col. William L. Stong.
18th Ohio, Lieut. Col. Josiah Given.
69th Ohio:
Col. William B. Cassil'y.
Maj. Eli J. Hickey.
Capt. David Putnam.
Capt. Joseph H. Brigham.
Lieut. Col. George F. Elliott.

Third (late Seventh) Brigade.

Col. JOHN F. MILLER.

37th Indiana:
Col. James S. Hull.
Lieut. Col. William D. Ward.
21st Ohio, Lieut. Col. James M. Neibling.
74th Ohio, Col. Granville Moody.
78th Pennsylvania, Col. William Sirwell.

Artillery.

Kentucky, Battery B, Lieut. Alban A. Ellsworth.
1st Ohio, Battery G, Lieut. Alexander Marshall.
1st Ohio, Battery M,* Capt. Frederick Schultz.

THIRD (LATE FIRST) DIVISION.†

Brig. Gen. SPEED S. FRY.

Escort.

2d Kentucky Cavalry, Company B, Captain Henry E. Collins.

First Brigade.

Col. MOSES B. WALKER.

82d Indiana, Col. Morton C. Hunter.
12th Kentucky, Col. William A. Hoskins.
17th Ohio, Col. John M. Connell.
31st Ohio, Lieut. Col. Frederick W. Lister.
38th Ohio, Col. Edward H. Phelps.

Second Brigade.

Col. JOHN M. HARLAN.

10th Indiana, Col. William B. Carroll.
74th Indiana, Col. Charles W. Chapman.
4th Kentucky, Col. John T. Croxton.
10th Kentucky, Lieut. Col. William H. Hays.
14th Ohio, Col. George P. Este.

Third Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JAMES B. STEEDMAN.

87th Indiana, Col. Kline G. Shryock.
2d Minnesota, Col. James George.
9th Ohio, Col. Gustave Kammerling.
35th Ohio, Col. Ferdinand Van Derveer.

* Attached to Second Brigade.

† The First Brigade (except the Twelfth Kentucky) and Church's battery were the only troops of this division engaged in the battle of Stone's River. All commanders are given as they stood December 31, 1862.

Artillery.

1st Michigan, Battery D, Capt. Josiah W. Church.
1st Ohio, Battery C, Capt. Daniel K. Southwick.
4th United States, Battery I, Lieut. Frank G. Smith.

FOURTH (LATE SEVENTH) DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ROBERT B. MITCHELL.

*First Brigade.**

Brig. Gen. JAMES D. MORGAN.

10th Illinois, Lieut. Col. McLain F. Wood.
16th Illinois, Lieut. Col. James B. Cahill.
60th Illinois, Col. Silas C. Toler.†
10th Michigan, Lieut. Col. C. J. Dickerson.‡

14th Michigan:

Lieut. Col. Myndert W. Quackenbush.‡
Lieut. Col. Milton L. Phillips.

Second (late Thirty-sixth) Brigade.

Col. DANIEL MCCOOK.

85th Illinois, Col. Robert S. Moore.†
86th Illinois, Lieut. Col. David W. Magee.
125th Illinois, Col. Oscar F. Harmon.
52d Ohio, Lieut. Col. D. D. T. Cowen.‡

Cavalry.

2d Indiana, Company A, Capt. John G. Kessler.
5th Kentucky, Maj. John Q. Owsley.
3d Tennessee, Col. William C. Pickens.§

Artillery.

2d Illinois, Battery I, Capt. Charles M. Barnett.
10th Wisconsin Battery, Capt. Yates V. Beebe.||

Unattached Infantry.

8th Kansas (five companies), Col. John A. Martin.
1st Middle (10th) Tennessee, Col. Alvan C. Gillem.

Artillery Reserve.

11th Indiana Battery, Capt. Arnold Sutermeister.
12th Indiana Battery, Lieut. James A. Dunwoody.
1st Michigan, Battery E, Capt. John J. Ely.

FIFTH (LATE TWELFTH) DIVISION.¶

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH J. REYNOLDS.

First (late Thirty-third) Brigade.

Col. ALBERT S. HALL.

80th Illinois, Col. Thomas G. Allen.
123d Illinois, Col. James Monroe.
101st Indiana, Col. William Garver.
105th Ohio, Lieut. Col. William R. Tolles.

Second (late Fortieth) Brigade.

Col. ABRAM O. MILLER.

98th Illinois, Col. John J. Funkhouser.
17th Indiana, Col. John T. Wilder.
72d Indiana, Maj. Henry M. Carr.
75th Indiana, Col. Milton S. Robinson.

Artillery.

18th Indiana Battery, Capt. Eli Lilly.
19th Indiana Battery, Capt. Samuel J. Harris.

* Formerly Second Brigade, Thirteenth Division.

† Eight companies Sixtieth Illinois, two companies Tenth Michigan, and five companies Fifty-second Ohio, detached under command of Col. Daniel McCook, and engaged in skirmish at Cox's Hill, January 3.

‡ Detached under command of Brig. Gen. J. G. Spears, January 2 and 3, and, with the First Brigade, Second Division, center, participated in the battle of Stone's River, January 3.

§ Detachments with General Spears and Colonel McCook, January 2 and 3.

|| Two sections with General Spears, January 2-5.

NOTE.—The exceptions indicated in foregoing notes were the only troops of the Fourth Division taking part in the movement from Nashville to Murfreesborough.

¶ Not engaged at Stone's River. Commanders given as they stood December 31, 1862.

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

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	
FIRST DIVISION.							
Maj. Gen. LOVELL H. ROUSSEAU.							
Staff and escort.....			1	1			2
<i>First Brigade.</i>							
Col. BENJAMIN F. SCRIBNER.							
Staff.....			1		1		2
38th Indiana.....	1	13	3	91		4	112
2d Ohio.....	2	9	3	31		7	52
33d Ohio.....		2		21		11	34
94th Ohio.....		3	2	21		28	54
10th Wisconsin.....		3	1	15		6	25
Total First Brigade.....	3	30	10	179	1	56	279
<i>Second Brigade.</i>							
Col. JOHN BEATTY.							
42d Indiana.....		17	6	75	2	32	132
88th Indiana.....		8	4	47		19	78
15th Kentucky.....	2	3	1	31	1	17	60
3d Ohio.....		17	1	65		23	106
1st Michigan Light Artillery, Battery A.....		1		10		2	13
Total Second Brigade.....	2	51	12	228	3	93	389
<i>Third Brigade.</i>							
Col. JOHN C. STARKWEATHER.							
24th Illinois.....				4		52	56
79th Pennsylvania.....		1		9		6	16
1st Wisconsin.....			1	11		16	28
21st Wisconsin.....		1	1	4		37	43
Kentucky Light Artillery, Battery A.....				1		2	3
Total Third Brigade.....		2	2	29		113	146
<i>Fourth Brigade.</i>							
Lieut. Col. OLIVER L. SHEPHERD.							
15th United States, 1st Battalion.....	1	10	4	74		17	106
16th United States, 1st Battalion, and Company B, 2d Battalion.....		16	7	126		16	165
18th United States, 1st Battalion, and Companies A and D, 3d Battalion.....	1	28	6	115		2	152
18th United States, 2d Battalion, and Companies B, C, E, and F, 3d Battalion.....	1	30	5	98		5	139
19th United States, 1st Battalion.....	1	6		57		10	74
5th United States Artillery, Battery H.....				5			5
Total Fourth Brigade.....	4	90	22	475		50	641
<i>Cavalry.</i>							
2d Kentucky (six companies).....				3			3
Total First Division.....	9	173	47	915	4	312	1,460
SECOND DIVISION.							
Brig. Gen. JAMES S. NEBLEY.							
<i>First Brigade.</i>							
Brig. Gen. JAMES G. SPEARS.							
1st Tennessee.....		3		16			19
2d Tennessee.....			1	6			7

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

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	
<i>First Brigade—Continued.</i>							
6th Tennessee*.....							
85th Illinois*.....							
14th Michigan.....		2		5			7
Wisconsin Light Artillery, 10th Battery*.....							
Total First Brigade.....		5	1	27			33
<i>Second Brigade.</i>							
Col. TIMOTHY R. STANLEY.							
19th Illinois.....	1	13	8	75		11	108
11th Michigan.....	2	28	6	78		25	139
18th Ohio.....	1	25	8	107		26	167
69th Ohio.....	1	4	6	47		38	96
1st Ohio Light Artillery, Battery M.....		1	1			1	3
Total Second Brigade.....	5	71	29	307		101	513
<i>Third Brigade.</i>							
Col. JOHN F. MILLER.							
Staff and escort.....			1	3			4
37th Indiana.....	2	25	5	110		8	150
21st Ohio.....		24	5	104		26	159
74th Ohio.....		8	6	92		19	125
78th Pennsylvania.....	1	15	3	180		39	188
Kentucky Light Artillery, Battery B.....		1	1	2		2	6
1st Ohio Light Artillery, Battery G.....		4		9		3	16
Total Third Brigade.....	3	77	21	450		97	648
Total Second Division.....	8	153	51	784		198	1,194
THIRD DIVISION.							
<i>First Brigade.</i>							
Col. MOSES B. WALKER.							
82d Indiana.....				5			5
17th Ohio.....			1	4			5
31st Ohio.....				6			6
38th Ohio.....			1	5			6
1st Michigan Light Artillery, Battery D*.....							
Total First Brigade.....			2	20			22
Total Third Division.....			2	20			22
Total Center.....	17	327	101	1,719	4	510	2,678
LEFT WING.							
Maj. Gen. THOMAS L. CRITTENDEN.							
Staff.....			1				1
FIRST DIVISION.							
(1.) Brig. Gen. THOMAS J. WOOD.†							
(2.) Brig. Gen. MILO S. HASCALL.							
Staff.....			1				1

* No loss reported.

† Wounded December 31.

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

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

Respectfully submitted.

ALEXANDER MARSHALL,

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

H. M. CIST,

Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 81.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The loss in my command of Tennessee troops was 4 wounded from the First Regiment and 7 wounded from the Second Regiment East Tennessee Volunteers. None killed or missing. The **Fourteenth Regiment Michigan Volunteers**, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Phillips, of the First East Tennessee, reported 2 killed and 3 wounded. The regiment left for Nashville as soon as the engagement was over, with the Eighty-fifth Illinois Regiment, which, during the engagement, was held in reserve and had no casualties.

Nineteen prisoners were taken and sent to corps headquarters. The loss of the enemy is not known, but said to be considerable, his strength being variously estimated at from one to two brigades.

On the morning of the 4th instant, I received an order from Major-General Rosecrans informing me that I, together with my command, had been permanently attached to the Eighth Division, commanded by Brigadier-General Negley.

On the evening of the same day, I was ordered by General Negley to hold myself in readiness to march at a moment's warning.

At 10 o'clock at night, I received an order from General Negley to order one of my regiments to report to Colonel Miller, commanding Seventh Brigade, for picket duty, which order was complied with by sending forward Lieutenant-Colonel Melton, in command of the Second East Tennessee Regiment, at 1 a. m. on the 5th.

On the morning of the 5th, I received a verbal order from General Negley to immediately move forward with the remaining force under my command, consisting of the First East Tennessee Infantry, Col. R. K. Byrd, and Sixth East Tennessee Infantry, Col. Joseph A. Cooper; also two sections of a battery (Tenth Wisconsin) commanded by Captain Beebe, and support Colonel Miller, who was in advance, engaged in building a bridge over Stone's River for the purpose of crossing infantry, the railroad bridge having been burned and injured by the enemy to such an extent as to render it unsafe. Being detained, Colonel Byrd and Colonel Cooper set their men to repairing the railroad bridge, and crossed about the same time that Colonel Miller's rear crossed the other bridge, marching through the town of Murfreesborough, with my force in rear of Colonel Miller's brigade. I was there ordered by General Negley to take and occupy a position near the crest of the ridge on the Manchester pike, which position I now occupy.

In the mean time, the cavalry having advanced upon the rear of the enemy then in our front, and the skirmishing becoming heavy, I was ordered by General Negley to support the cavalry with one regiment of infantry and one section of artillery, which I did by immediately ordering Colonel Byrd's regiment of East Tennessee, 400 strong, and Captain Beebe, with one section of artillery, to go forward and report to Brigadier-General Stanley, commanding the cavalry in front.

The enemy had retreated to a point in the woods near the Manchester pike, 5 miles from Murfreesborough, where they had stopped and formed line of battle.

On the arrival of Colonel Byrd's and Captain Beebe's commands, a sharp fight took place, both sides using artillery and small-arms, which resulted in a complete rout of the enemy, not, however, without some loss to us, Colonel Byrd losing 3 killed and 12 wounded, mostly slight.

About the time the fight was going on between our infantry and cavalry force of the enemy, I received a verbal order from General Negley to advance to the front with the remaining force under my command, which I did as rapidly as possible; but before I could arrive on the battle-field General Stanley, with his brigade of cavalry, and Colonel

Byrd, with his gallant Tennessees, aided by Captain Beebe's shells, had succeeded in driving the enemy, so that not one could be seen.

All the troops under my command behaved well, and Col. R. K. Byrd, of the First East Tennessee, and Lieutenant-Colonel Phillips, of the same regiment, are both said to have distinguished themselves, Colonel Byrd having his horse shot and wounded, and several balls passing through his clothes. Several prisoners were taken.

The loss of the enemy has since proved to be some 30 in killed, besides wounded, which he took off.

The two sections of the Tenth Wisconsin Battery were not permanently attached to my command, and have since been ordered back to Nashville.

Herewith I inclose the reports of Colonel Cooper, Sixth East Tennessee Regiment Volunteer Infantry, describing the march from Nashville to this point, and his encounter with the enemy on his way.

The following is a list of casualties: Went into action, commissioned officers, 66; enlisted men, 734; horses, 8. Lost in action, killed, enlisted men, 3; wounded, commissioned officers, 1; enlisted men, 22; horses, wounded, 1. The **Fourteenth Michigan** and Eighty-fifth Illinois, which were ordered out of my command immediately after the action, I have no reports of.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

JAMES G. SPEARS,

Brigadier-General, Commanding First Tennessee Brigade.

Brig. Gen. J. S. NEGLEY,

Commanding Eighth Division, Fourteenth Army Corps.

No. 82.

Report of Col. Joseph A. Cooper, Sixth Tennessee Infantry, of skirmish at Cox's Hill.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH EAST TENNESSEE VOLUNTEERS,
Camp near Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 9, 1863.

SIR: Permit me to submit this my official report of the march of my regiment from Nashville to Murfreesborough, in obedience to Special Orders, No. 8, as follows:

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, TENNESSEE VOLUNTEERS,
No. 8. } *Nashville, Tenn., January 3, 1863.*

Colonel Cooper, with his entire command for duty, will at once take up the line of march upon the Murfreesborough pike. They will take two days' rations. They will report on said road to Col. Daniel McCook.

By command of General Spears:

D. C. TREWHITT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Complying with the above order, we took up the line of march at 8 o'clock. We marched out to the junction of the pike, where we lay in the rain about three hours, waiting for the commanding officer, Col. Daniel McCook. He arrived about 12 o'clock, and gave the following order:

The two regiments in advance of you will march in front with the regiment of regular cavalry, all except 50; the remaining 50 will act as rear guard for the whole. Your regiment, the Sixth East Tennessee, will march immediately in rear of the train.

We then took up the line of march to Murfreesborough. We marched, without halting, about 6 miles, arriving this side the lunatic asylum.