

THE
WAR OF THE REBELLION:

A COMPILATION OF THE
OFFICIAL RECORDS

OF THE
UNION AND CONFEDERATE ARMIES.

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

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

PURSUANT TO ACTS OF CONGRESS.

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

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
1887.

LEFT WING.

Maj. Gen. THOMAS L. CRITTENDEN.

FIRST (LATE SIXTH) DIVISION.

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

First (late Fifteenth) Brigade.

- (1.) Brig. Gen. MILO S. HASCALL.
 (2.) Col. GEORGE P. BUELL.

100th Illinois, Col. Frederick A. Bartleson.
 58th Indiana:
 Col. George P. Buell.
 Lieut. Col. James T. Embree.
 3d Kentucky:
 Col. Samuel McKee.
 Maj. Daniel R. Collier.
 26th Ohio, Capt. William H. Squires.

Second (late Twenty-first) Brigade.

Col. GEORGE D. WAGNER.

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

Third (late Twentieth) Brigade.

Col. CHARLES G. HARKER.

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

*Artillery.**

Maj. SEYMOUR RACE.

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

SECOND (LATE FOURTH) DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JOHN M. PALMER.

First (late Twenty-second) Brigade.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES CRUFT.

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

Second (late Nineteenth) Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM B. HAZEN.

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

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

Third (late Tenth) Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM GROSE.

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

Artillery.

Capt. WILLIAM E. STANDART.

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

THIRD (LATE FIFTH) DIVISION.

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

First (late Eleventh) Brigade.

- (1.) Col. SAMUEL BRATTY.
 (2.) Col. BENJAMIN C. GRIDER.

79th Indiana, Col. Frederick Kneifer.
 9th Kentucky:
 Col. Benjamin C. Grider.
 Lieut. Col. George H. Cram.
 11th Kentucky, Maj. Erasmus L. Mottley.
 19th Ohio, Maj. Charles F. Manderson.

Second (late Fourteenth) Brigade.

Col. JAMES P. FRYFE.

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

Third (late Twenty-third) Brigade.

Col. SAMUEL W. PRICE.

35th Indiana, Col. Bernard F. Mullen.
 8th Kentucky:
 Lieut. Col. Reuben May.
 Maj. Green B. Broadus.
 21st Kentucky, Lieut. Col. James C. Evans.
 51st Ohio, Lieut. Col. Richard W. McClain.
 69th Ohio:
 Col. Peter T. Swaine.
 Lieut. Col. John E. Cummins.

Artillery.

Capt. GEORGE R. SWALLOW.

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

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

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	
First Brigade.							
(1.) Brig. Gen. MILO S. BARGALL. (2.) Col. GEORGE P. BUELL.							
100th Illinois	1	6	6	23			46
58th Indiana	1	16	4	96			114
8d Kentucky	3	12	3	77		24	133
26th Ohio	1	11	2	85			99
Indiana Light Artillery, 8th Battery				3			3
Total First Brigade	5	46	26	293		24	400
Second Brigade.							
Col. GEORGE D. WASKER.							
15th Indiana	2	26	7	196		7	188
40th Indiana		4	6	89		12	85
57th Indiana		11	6	55		6	78
97th Ohio		3		15		6	24
Indiana Light Artillery, 10th Battery		1		4			5
Total Second Brigade	2	55	16	279		22	380
Third Brigade.							
Col. CHARLES G. HARKER.							
51st Indiana		7	3	43		9	50
72d Indiana	3	22	3	48		26	111
18th Michigan		17	3	70			89
64th Ohio	1	23	3	61		17	105
65th Ohio	3	23	6	82		38	173
Ohio Light Artillery, 6th Battery		1	1	8		1	11
Total Third Brigade	5	108	19	311		101	529
Total First Division	12	208	58	880		167	1,220
SECOND DIVISION.							
Brig. Gen. JOHN M. PALMER.							
Staff			1				1
First Brigade.							
Brig. Gen. CHARLES CRUFT.							
31st Indiana		5	1	44	3	24	87
1st Kentucky		12	1	51	1	39	95
2d Kentucky		9	2	56		10	77
90th Ohio		17	5	67	2	46	137
Total First Brigade		44	9	218	6	120	387
Second Brigade.							
Col. WILLIAM B. HARRIS.							
Staff and escort			4	1			5
110th Illinois	1	6	3	45		3	55
9th Indiana	1	19	5	82		11	108
6th Kentucky	2	11	5	85		10	112
41st Ohio	1	12	3	102		6	124
Total Second Brigade	5	40	19	315		29	400

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

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	
Third Brigade.							
Col. WILLIAM GROSS.							
84th Illinois	2	25	5	119		8	157
30th Indiana	2	23	6	85		18	134
23d Kentucky		5	3	50		22	83
2th Ohio	2	23	4	134		14	177
24th Ohio	4	19	4	68		12	96
Total Third Brigade	10	97	22	456		74	650
Artillery.							
1st Ohio Light Artillery, Battery B		5		12		3	20
1st Ohio Light Artillery, Battery F		2	1	13		3	15
4th U. S. Artillery, Batteries H and M		2		14		6	22
Total Artillery		9	1	39		11	60
Total Second Division	15	190	52	1,029	6	234	1,526
THIRD DIVISION.							
(1.) Brig. Gen. HORATIO P. VAN CLEVELAND. (2.) Col. SAMUEL BRATTY.							
Staff			1				1
First Brigade.							
(1.) Col. SAMUEL BRATTY. (2.) Col. BENJAMIN C. GRIDER.							
70th Indiana	1	10	6	68		36	121
9th Kentucky	4	12	7	30		3	112
11th Kentucky		7	4	81		10	102
19th Ohio	3	24	3	122		34	186
Total First Brigade	8	50	20	361		83	521
Second Brigade.							
Col. JAMES P. FRYER.							
Staff			1				1
44th Indiana		10		54		25	91
88th Indiana	1	22	5	55	3	69	136
12th Ohio	2	29	6	79		69	138
59th Ohio		3		35	2	43	85
Total Second Brigade	3	75	16	223	4	236	557
Third Brigade.							
Col. SAMUEL W. PRICE.							
35th Indiana		23	5	77		83	137
8th Kentucky	2	7	6	69		27	111
21st Kentucky	2	10	2	34		9	57
51st Ohio		24	4	118		44	190
90th Ohio		12	5	41	1	29	88
Total Third Brigade	4	75	22	339	1	143	568

* Wounded December 31.

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.
				Drayage.	Artillery.	Cavalry.	Total.		
SECOND DIVISION.									
Headquarters and division train.....	5		80					90	90
Second Brigade.									
Headquarters 18th Ohio.....				1			1		1
				6			6	4	10
Third Brigade.									
Headquarters.....	3		12	1		1	3	8	10
74th Ohio.....	1	1	6	2			2	4	6
37th Indiana.....	4	1	16	1			1	12	12
21st Ohio.....	4	1	1	6			6	6	6
78th Pennsylvania.....	1		14	1		9	10		10
1st Ohio Artillery, Battery G.....			26		46		46		46
Hewitt's Kentucky Battery.....	1		19		18		18		18
1st Ohio Artillery, Battery M.....			1		9		9	1	10
FIFTH DIVISION.									
Second [First] Brigade.									
Headquarters.....	15		86	5			5	84	89
106th Ohio.....	4		8				1	16	16
80th Illinois.....	5		19	1			1	20	21
123d Illinois.....	4		12					24	24
101st Indiana.....	4		10					20	20
19th Indiana Battery.....	3		4		10		10		10
LEFT WING.									
FIRST DIVISION.									
Supply train.....			3		16		16	3	2
6th Ohio Battery.....					22		22	1	16
10th Indiana Battery.....					16	3	21	12	33
8th Indiana Battery.....	3		12				4	6	10
26th Ohio.....	1	1	6	4				12	12
58th Indiana.....	2		12					6	6
3d Kentucky.....	1		6					6	6
13th Michigan.....			6					6	6
SECOND DIVISION.									
Supply train.....	2		6					12	12
90th Ohio.....	1							1	1
110th Illinois.....		1	1	2			2		2
9th Indiana.....									
THIRD DIVISION.									
Supply train.....	2		8					7	7
3d Wisconsin Battery.....					11		11		11
26th Pennsylvania Battery.....					7		7		7
7th Indiana Battery.....					5		5		5
DETACHED.									
Michigan Engineers and Mechanics.....	3		41	21			21	20	41
3d Ohio Cavalry.....	1		6					6	6
Captain Warren's supply train.....	6								
Total loss.....	220	23	1,540	189	555	80	774	1,324	2,108

List of animals and means of transportation and other property captured from the enemy and picked up on the battle-field from January 1 to January 16, 1863, as per reports of division quartermasters.

Command.	Wagons.	Ambulances.	Mules.	Horses.	Total number of animals.	Harness, single sets.	Number of hides.	Pounds of cotton.	Bushels of bran.
RIGHT WING.									
Second Division.....			20	50	70				
Third Division.....				4	4				
CENTER.									
Fifth Division.....	9		18	15	23	12			
LEFT WING.									
First Division.....	1	1	17	7	24				
Third Division.....		1	2	6	8				
DETACHED.									
10th Ohio.....	3		14	1	15	19			
Captain Boyd, assistant quartermaster.....				6	6				
First Brigade Pioneers.....	4		4		4	21			
Chief of army police.....	1		143	103	246	2		3,630	2,500
Capt. C. T. Wing, assistant quartermaster.....			5	4	9		1,000		
Lieut. Col. J. W. Taylor, quartermaster.....									
Total.....	18	2	223	196	419	54	1,000	3,630	2,500

No. 7.

Report of Capt. William M. Wiles, Forty-fourth Indiana Infantry, provost-marshal-general, of prisoners captured.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
OFFICE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
Murfreesborough, Tenn., February 9, 1863.

GENERAL: I have the honor herewith to forward a complete report of Confederate prisoners captured by the army under your command at the late battle of Stone's River, showing the number of regiments and other organizations represented, the number of the same from each State, the number of officers and enlisted men captured from each regiment or organization, the entire number of officers and enlisted men captured, and to what arm of the service they belong. The total number of prisoners captured is shown to be 3,694.*

Taking into account the number and character of the organization, and using the lowest possible estimate of the strength of each, it can be shown, beyond controversy, that the enemy's force exceeded our own by at least one-third. Complete reports of the number captured by the enemy from our own forces have not yet been received. From the best information received up to the present time, the number will not exceed 2,800, and in all probability the estimate is too large.

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

WM. M. WILES,

Captain and Provost-Marshal-General.

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

* An earlier report (January 12, 1863) from this officer gave 126 officers and 3,071 men captured; total, 3,197.

in obvious view of the enemy's battle array, halted, as explained in my report, and precautionary dispositions commenced for the night, an order was received to continue the advance on Murfreesborough. The order was received just at nightfall, when darkness was beginning to shroud the ground to be passed over with obscurity. The movement was at once commenced, but was subsequently suspended by General Crittenden until further communication could be had with the commanding general of the army. Before, however, the order was suspended, Har-ker's brigade had crossed Stone's River under a galling fire, driven in the enemy's outposts, and seized a strong position, which it held until nearly 10 o'clock that evening.

The commanding general having approved the suspension of the order, and it not being prudent to leave the brigade in so exposed a position, it was ordered to recross the river. It performed the retrograde movement handsomely, in good order and with perfect success, though confronted by an entire division (Breckinridge's) of the enemy. This fact was learned from a prisoner, captured when the brigade first crossed the river. Bradley's (Sixth Ohio) battery accompanied the brigade in the entire movement.

I desire to repair the omission in my previous report, and request that this communication be made part of it. It will readily be perceived how the omission occurred when it is remembered that my original report was prepared without the aid of the reports of subordinate commanders, and written under the compound embarrassment of inconvenience from my wound and suffering from a quotidian intermittent fever, with which I had been afflicted for ten days previous to the battle of the 31st ultimo.

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

TH. J. WOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

Maj. LYNE STARLING,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Chief of Staff, Crittenden's Corps.

No. 97.

Reports of Brig. Gen. Milo S. Hascall, U. S. Army, commanding First Brigade and First Division, including skirmishes at La Vergne and on the Murfreesborough pike, at Stewart's Creek Bridge.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION, LEFT WING,
Stewart's Creek, Tenn., December 28, 1862.

Yesterday, about 11 a. m., while General Wood's division was lying about three-fourths of a mile beyond La Vergne, near the Murfreesborough pike, I received notice from General Wood that General Crittenden's command (being the left wing, Fourteenth Army Corps) would again advance, General Wood's leading, and that my brigade had been directed by him to take the advance. My instructions were to advance by the Murfreesborough pike, and reach Stewart's Creek and save the bridge at that point if possible.

The enemy had been throwing shells at us at intervals all the morning from an eminence a little this side of La Vergne, wounding some of our men, so that we knew the town and the hills beyond were occupied by the enemy. Accordingly, I at once formed my brigade in order of battle in two lines, the Fifty-eighth Indiana on the right of the first line, supported by the Third Kentucky, and the Twenty-sixth Ohio,

commanded by Maj. William H. Squires, on the left of the first line, supported by the One hundredth Illinois, the Eighth Indiana Battery, commanded by Lieut. George Estep, occupying the intervals between the infantry. This disposition having been made, and the front well covered, with the flank companies of the first line as skirmishers, the order to advance was given. We had to pass over an open field the entire distance to the town.

Before we had been five minutes in motion, a brisk fire was opened by the enemy in and about town upon our skirmishers, which soon became effectual upon the first line also. The fire was vigorously returned by our skirmishers, but, I presume, with little effect, owing to the cover the town, fences, and bushes afforded the enemy.

Not wishing to try and cope with the enemy under such unfavorable circumstances any longer than was absolutely necessary, I ordered the skirmishers and the first line to charge at a double-quick and get possession of the town at all hazards. The front line was lying flat on their faces at the time of receiving the order; but in the twinkling of an eye the entire line sprang to their feet, fixed their bayonets, and, rushing forward with a yell, had, in five minutes' time, possession of the town and the crest beyond. The manner in which this was done left nothing to be desired.

Our entire loss, though skirmishing all day, was sustained at this point. Twenty of the Twenty-sixth Ohio and 7 of the Fifty-eighth Indiana were lying around with wounds of greater or less severity to tell the tale.

Leaving our wounded to be cared for by the rear brigades, we pushed toward, skirmishing nearly all the time. After advancing about 1½ miles beyond the town, I discovered that the front line was becoming much exhausted, and many of the Twenty-sixth Ohio were throwing their knapsacks away. I, therefore, relieved it with the second line, sent a detail back to collect the knapsacks, and pressed on to this point, skirmishing all the way through a drenching rain, and through almost impassable thickets of cedar, and over muddy and sloppy plowed fields. At half a dozen points on the way we were resisted by the enemy's artillery; but Lieutenant Estep's battery, assisted by Maj. S. Race, in command of the artillery of the division, soon dislodged them, and we moved forward without allowing ourselves to be even temporarily detained, until we came to the eminence just in front of our camp, and which overlooks the bridge at Stewart's Creek.

Here we found the enemy had a battery planted on the hill beyond Stewart's Creek. We had no sooner planted a section of Estep's battery and opened upon them than they promptly returned our fire. The fearful accuracy of their fire soon convinced us that this was a different battery from that with which we had been contending all day, as every shot from them either struck our pieces or came within close proximity. Having no long-range guns in Estep's battery, I sent to the rear for some out of another battery, and as soon as they had got in position the enemy's fire was silenced.

It was during this artillery duel that my skirmishers, who were concealed near the banks of Stewart's Creek, discovered that the enemy had loaded the bridge with rails and other combustible material and had set fire to it. Volunteers being called for to extinguish the flame at all hazards, the entire line of skirmishers from the Third Kentucky, assisted by Company B, Captain Ewing, of the Twenty-sixth Ohio, rushed in and threw the combustibles from the bridge, and saved it. Great credit is due for this act, as the loss of the bridge would have delayed

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

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

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

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

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

The casualties are as follows:

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

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

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

All of which is respectfully submitted.

MILO S. HASCALL,

Brigadier-General of Vols., Comdg. First Division, Left Wing.

Capt. M. P. BESTOW,

Assistant Adjutant-General, First Division, Left Wing.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

RECAPITULATION.

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

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

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

All of which is respectfully submitted.

MILO S. HASOALL,

Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Brigade.

Capt. M. P. BESTOW,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

battery, in firing upon Bradley's battery on January 2, was such as, in my judgment, demands immediate investigation, in order that the parties guilty of such gross carelessness may be properly punished.

I am, sir, most respectfully,

MILO S. HASCALL,

Brigadier-General of Vols., Comdg. First Division, Left Wing.

Major STARLING,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Left Wing.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, LEFT WING,
Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 17, 1863.

In the hurry of making out my official report as division commander, I neglected to allude to the very valuable services rendered by Surg. W. W. Blair, medical director of this division, during and since the recent battles. His services were such as merit special commendation, and I desire that this may be forwarded as a part of my report, in justice to Dr. Blair. He reports to me that all the regimental surgeons were efficient and rendered valuable service.

I am, sir, respectfully,

MILO S. HASCALL,

Brigadier-General of Vols., Comdg. First Division, Left Wing.

Major STARLING,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Left Wing.

No. 98.

Report of Maj. Seymour Race, First Ohio Light Artillery, Chief of Artillery.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY FIRST DIVISION, LEFT WING,
January 7, 1863.

DEAR SIR: I have the honor to submit to you the official reports of the commanding officers of the batteries of this division.

About 9 a. m. of December 31, 1862, Capt. Cullen Bradley, Sixth Ohio Light Battery, by orders, moved his battery, with Harker's brigade, to the extreme right of our lines, where they engaged the enemy's artillery (two four-gun batteries, supposed) and infantry in a most severely contested battle. Before superior numbers of the enemy, the brigade and battery (after repulsing the first attack of the enemy) were obliged to retire, but not without disputing every inch of ground, Captain Bradley being obliged to leave two of his guns on the field. They were soon after retaken by the Thirteenth Michigan, Colonel Shoemaker, whose timely support forced the enemy to retire.

Captain Bradley's battery was under my immediate observation, and the conduct of Captain Bradley, his subordinate officers, and men was such as to entitle them to great credit. The conduct of this battery on January 2, under the fire of three batteries of the enemy, was gallant in the extreme. The enemy's batteries were nearly silenced, when Captain Stokes' battery opened, 300 yards in rear of Bradley, with canister, at a distance of at least 2,200 yards from the enemy's guns. Captain Bradley had 5 men and 5 horses wounded by their fire, and was obliged to retire.

I respectfully ask an investigation into the conduct of Stokes' battery on this occasion. Capt. J. B. Cox, Tenth Indiana Battery, and Lieut.

George Estep, commanding Eighth Indiana Battery, were closely engaged during the battle of December 31, on the left of our lines, supported by General Hascall's and Colonel Wagner's brigades. Captain Cox was under the fire of three batteries of the enemy for seven hours during the day, but succeeded in administering to them all in a manner perfectly satisfactory to me, and to the great discomfiture of the enemy.

On January 2, when in position on the right, he repulsed, with canister, a desperate charge of a brigade of the enemy's infantry. Captain Cox, his officers, and men behaved with great gallantry and bravery. Lieutenant Estep's battery, by a free use of case-shot and canister, on December 31, succeeded in repulsing three successive charges of the enemy's infantry, and otherwise, during the three days' battle, did most excellent service. Lieutenants Estep, Voris, and Winsor, and the non-commissioned officers and men of this battery, with few exceptions, behaved with commendable coolness and bravery. Lieut. Richard Jarvis acted in a most cowardly manner. I will devote a special communication to his case.

For full particulars of the engagements and losses, I respectfully refer you to the accompanying reports of battery commanders.

Respectfully submitted.

S. RACE,

Major, Chief of Artillery, First Division, Left Wing.

Capt. E. R. KERSTETTER,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 99.

Reports of Lieut. George Estep, Eighth Indiana Battery, including skirmishes at La Vergne and on the Murfreesborough pike, at Stewart's Creek Bridge.

IN THE FIELD, December 28, 1862.

GENERAL: While connected with your brigade yesterday, on the march from the camp of the previous night, I could at no time (on account of the disposition of the enemy to retire) get an opportunity to fire more than two or three shots. I fired in all 42 rounds; that these were damaging to the enemy or his guns I am unable to tell. In the last position which I took, commanding the Stewart's Creek Bridge, I fired 8 rounds, and received about the same number in return; one of the enemy's shots took a spoke from the wheel of one of my gun-carriages. I am happy to say no other damages were done. The officers of my battery behaved with commendable coolness.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE ESTEP,

First Lieutenant, Commanding Eighth Indiana Battery.

Brigadier-General HASCALL,

Commanding Fifteenth Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH INDIANA BATTERY,
In the Field, near Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 4, 1863.

I have the honor, respectfully, to submit the following official report of the Eighth Indiana Light Battery, on December 31, 1862, and 1st and 2d days of January, 1863:

I put my battery in position on Wednesday morning about 9 o'clock,

by order of General Rosecrans, on the west side of the railroad, supported on the right by two batteries, and on the left by the Nineteenth Infantry (regulars); fired 114 rounds (at a range of 800 yards) at the enemy, who were driving back our infantry advance. I then advanced the battery 75 or 80 yards, supported, as in the first position, by the two batteries on my right and the Nineteenth Infantry on my left.

At this position the enemy in three lines made three desperate charges, and were as often repulsed by my battery. I expended 70 rounds of canister, and was compelled four or five times to double-charge the pieces in order to drive the enemy; this beginning at a range of 90 yards, and increasing as the enemy became confused and retired. I also fired from this position 106 rounds of shrapnel and solid shot, at a range of about 800 yards, at the lines of the enemy advancing on our right.

I then received an order from General Hascall, commanding the First Brigade of the division, to take a position on the left of the pike in the direction of Murfreesborough, which I did, supported by his entire brigade, as good soldiers as ever went to battle. I commenced firing at a range of 400 yards, the enemy bringing up his forces in three lines, and making desperate charges on the center, but was repulsed by my battery and the gallant men of General Hascall's brigade. I was twice in this position, and fired 226 rounds, my men all the time exposed to a galling fire of musketry.

Late in the afternoon I was ordered to a position on the east side of the railroad, supported by three regiments, the Twenty-sixth Ohio, Fifty-seventh Indiana, and an Illinois regiment. Here I expended 66 rounds, shelling the enemy from the woods, near the creek, from which he had driven a portion of our troops during the afternoon. I remained in this position until after dark, and then retired to the camp of the previous night. Loss during the day, 8 horses killed and disabled and 4 men wounded.

On the morning of January 1, I was put in position before daylight, in line of battle, by Major Race. An hour or two after daylight the enemy commenced an advance on our front. I opened fire, in connection with other batteries, and drove him back. No loss during the day; expended 46 rounds.

Remained in position all night, and on the morning of the 2d expended 34 rounds, shelling the woods at different points, where the enemy could occasionally be seen from my position. About 9 o'clock my battery was fired upon by two rebel batteries (twelve guns, supposed) at a range of 2,000 yards; it being beyond my range, I was forced to retire my battery, leaving for the time being two pieces on the field. Some of the horses of one of the limbers were severely wounded, and became so badly frightened by the bursting of the enemy's shell that the drivers were unable to control them; they ran to the rear in spite of every effort made to bring them to the piece. I was not long, however, in recovering both pieces. After repairing the loss of horses in the battery from the battery and forge wagons, I remained quiet in line until about 4 o'clock. I was then ordered to take a position on the left, which I did. I was well supported by infantry, but do not know what troops they were. I commenced firing, at a range of about 700 yards, at what I supposed to be a brigade of the enemy's infantry holding a point of woods. I am positive that my battery from this position did the enemy great injury; expended 123 rounds. I retired the battery for ammunition, and again took a position to the left of my first and near the creek. Here I engaged a rebel battery at a range of 900 yards, and succeeded in silencing it, expending 86 rounds. We soon after crossed the creek, and remained during the night.

I am sorry to say that Second Lieut. Richard Jervis, on Wednesday, at a trying and critical moment, retired a section of my battery without my order or knowledge, and that he otherwise behaved badly during the day. He claimed, on the morning of the second day's fight, to be unwell, but said (this was before daylight) if he should feel better in the course of an hour or two he would come out to the field and report for duty. This was the last I saw of him until the fight was over. I am informed that he went back to the rear to one of the hospitals.

First Lieut. Jeremiah Voris and Second Lieut. Samuel Winsor have my thanks for their efficient service at all times during the engagement; they were brave and unflinching in the discharge of duty. I am also indebted to Orderly Sergt. William Stokes for the promptness with which he supplied the battery with ammunition. My sergeants, corporals, and men, with three exceptions, behaved with commendable coolness and bravery.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE ESTEP,

First Lieutenant, Commanding Eighth Indiana Battery.

Maj. S. RACE,

Commanding Artillery of First Division, Left Wing.

P. S.—I neglected to state that my loss on the third day was 4 men wounded, 11 horses killed and disabled.

No. 100.

Report of Capt. Jerome B. Cox, Tenth Indiana Battery.

JANUARY —, 1863.

On the morning of December 31, I was ordered to move my battery across the railroad (my left was then resting on the railroad) and prepare for battle. I immediately obeyed by crossing and placing the right section immediately on the left of the railroad, and the left and center sections about 200 yards farther north. The entire battery then engaged a battery of the enemy immediately in front, which we compelled to cease firing. Simultaneously with this, two other batteries opened upon us, and shortly afterward were joined by the one that had been silenced. They completely showered the shot and shell, but with little damage. This unequal contest was kept up for about four hours, and was only deviated from on the appearance of heavy columns of their troops, upon which we would open the entire battery and disperse them in great disorder. We would then resume the work on their artillery.

About 1 p. m. I relieved one section of the battery at a time for a short time to retire for ammunition. They came up again to the work supplied with ammunition, when the engagement was renewed somewhat similar to the fight in the forenoon, except that more frequently we had to drive back their infantry.

About 3 o'clock my ammunition was exhausted, with the exception of canister, which I ordered they should hold to disperse a large force then bearing down on us in front. We held our fire until they were within 400 yards, when we could completely see the devices on their colors. We completely broke up their lines and scattered them in great disorder over the field in front. Being then only under fire of their batteries, and having no projectiles to reach them, I withdrew from the

I would also state that John J. Hight, chaplain of the regiment, deserves commendation for his efficient services rendered on the field and in the hospitals, caring for the wounded.

I have to report the following loss in this day's engagement, to wit: Second Lieut. Francis B. Blackford, of Company E, was killed while bravely encouraging his men to fight for their cause. Capts. William A. Downey and Ashbury H. Alexander, Second Lieut. William Adams, and Lieut. Charles C. Whiting were all wounded while performing their duty with great zeal and efficiency at their respective posts. Of enlisted men killed in action, there were 16, and 73 wounded in such a manner as to disable them for present service. There were also 24 men slightly wounded. I have also to report 3 men captured by the enemy, with the regimental wagons, at some distance from the field of battle, and also 3 men missing; making a total loss to the regiment as follows: Killed—commissioned officers, 1; enlisted men, 16. Wounded—commissioned officers, 4; enlisted men disabled, 73; enlisted men missing, 3. Total loss in this day's action, 97; enlisted men captured (not in action), 3. Total, 100.

At the close of the action this day, Brigadier-General Hascall being called to the command of the division, I took command of the brigade, and left the command of the regiment to Lieut. Col. James T. Embree, who has since commanded it.

Respectfully,

GEO. P. BUELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

Captain KERSTETTER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 103.

Reports of Col. Frederick A. Bartleson, One hundredth Illinois Infantry, including skirmishes near La Vergne and on the Murfreesborough pike, at Stewart's Creek Bridge.

IN THE FIELD, AT STEWART'S CREEK,
December 28, 1862.

SIR: I have the honor to report as follows of the part taken by my regiment in the advance on Stewart's Creek on the 27th December, 1862:

We advanced on La Vergne in rear of the Twenty-sixth Ohio. After passing La Vergne some distance, we took the place of the Twenty-sixth Ohio, relieving their skirmishers. The march in line of battle was very difficult, owing to the obstacles in the way, and the rain had made the ground in places very fatiguing to be traveled over; the men, however, advanced very well. After arriving at the point where we are now bivouacked, near the creek, while the artillery was interchanging shots with the enemy, by direction of General Hascall, I moved a little to the left. In a short time, hearing firing toward the left of our rear, I sent Captain Munger's company (G) to protect our left flank, instructing him to take up his position near the crest of a rise of ground. He did so, and had just got ready for deploying his men when a force of the enemy's cavalry, numbering, perhaps, 50 or 60, came dashing along. Seeing them coming, Captain Munger ordered his men to fire, and received some shots in return, when he ordered them to surrender, which they did, some,

however, with great reluctance. All were taken that came up near his company, but some, who were behind, seeing those in advance surrender, wheeled to the left behind a house and escaped. The number, including Lieutenant Seawell, Fifty-first Alabama Partisans, who was in command, taken was 24, besides 12 horses and saddles and 12 guns. A number of the prisoners, when they saw they must surrender, threw away their guns. One was wounded fatally and 2 slightly.

Company B, while skirmishing, took 1 prisoner, who is in charge. Some of the horses were taken, I understand, by some other skirmishers, into whose line they ran, and some got away. None of our men were wounded, although one or two were struck by spent balls.

Respectfully, yours,

F. A. BARTLESON,
Colonel One hundredth Illinois.

Capt. E. R. KERSTETTER,
Actg. Asst. Adj. Gen., Fifteenth Brigade, Sixth Division.

HEADQUARTERS ONE HUNDREDTH ILLINOIS VOL. INFANTRY,
On the Battle-field, near Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 5, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the One hundredth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry during December 31, 1862:

On the morning of December 31, 1862, while a portion of General Van Cleve's command were returning from the ford of the creek (which up to that time had been guarded by the One hundredth Illinois and Fifty-eighth Indiana), not carrying out their original intention of crossing, my regiment was ordered to follow, in column of companies, the Twenty-sixth Ohio, which we did, and, moving with them toward the right, we at last took our position in line of battle on the right of the Fifty-eighth Indiana and in the rear of the Twenty-sixth Ohio, amid a scene of almost indescribable confusion, other regiments moving among us, ambulances and wagons hurrying to the rear, and scattered cavalrymen and negroes, urging their horses to their utmost speed, seeking a place of safety. We moved with the brigade farther on, until we came within the range of the enemy's cannon, and were exposed for a time to a heavy cross-fire of artillery.

After remaining thus for a short time, the fire on the right becoming momentarily heavier, I moved, in pursuance of orders, across the railroad, the regiment resting at right angles with the road, the right wing on the right of the railroad, and the left wing on the left of it. I noticed at this time, and shortly before, that our troops on the right were falling back, belonging, I presume, to General McCook's corps, and I was ordered to throw my men parallel to the railroad, which I did.

The bank of the excavation being too high for a part of the regiment to fire in that position, I ordered them to get out of it and lie down on the left side of the railroad. The firing in this direction was pretty heavy, but my men were not called on to reply. I observed some troops falling back in considerable confusion. Some of them were rallied and formed in the excavation we had left, toward my right, but not in any considerable number. I am unable to say who they were. At this point a shell, which killed 5 men of an adjoining regiment, so affected my sergeant-major that he is bent to the ground with an injury that will probably affect him for life.

I had noticed about this time that the firing was drawing near on the

left of the position I then occupied, parallel with the railroad, and was apprehensive that our troops on the left side of the road might be taken on the flank. About this time Colonel Hazen, of the brigade, directed me to file to the left. Asking him his name, and being myself convinced of the necessity of the movement, I complied, and moved forward in a line at right angles with that just left, until I came up with the One hundred and tenth Illinois, Colonel Casey. We halted here, and for a short time participated in a sharp fire of musketry, which finally ceased, leaving us to bear nothing except a cannonade, which gradually lulled. There was another regiment at this time behind us, but what one I know not. After a short time this was withdrawn, and I was left alone with the One hundred and tenth Illinois.

There was at this point an open space (a cotton field) in our front, and in a short time I discovered a large body of the enemy on the other side, across the field, apparently moving to attack us. The One hundred and tenth at this time formed on my left. I regarded the situation as extremely perilous, and informed General Hascall, who was not far distant, of the same. He replied that he saw it likewise, but we must hold it.

Shortly after, a force of our own was thrown across the field in our front, but was soon withdrawn. Informing my men that this was a good time to show what they were and make a reputation, and announcing my determination to them that they should stay there, I ordered them forward, and halted them at the edge of the wood. The One hundred and tenth said they would stay with us, and moved likewise. I commanded the men to lie down, but the enemy, having necessarily discovered us, opened upon us with a perfect storm of shot, shell, and grape. A battery of our own in a short time replied behind us, and for the space of three or four hours the scene was fearful.

Although so much exposed, I cannot but be thankful that we suffered so little, commensurate with our danger. The most of our loss, however, was incurred here. Second Lieutenant Worthingham was instantly killed by a shell. Second Lieutenant Mitchell, Company A, was mortally wounded in the hip by a musket or rifle ball, of which he afterward died. They were both deserving officers, and did their duty nobly. Major Hammond had a narrow escape, having the skirts of his coat torn and a slight wound in the calf of his leg. First Lieut. George Bez and Second Lieutenant McDonald, both of Company C, were somewhat wounded, but I think not severely. First Lieutenant Kelley, Company K, was wounded severely in the right shoulder. Second Lieutenant McConnell, Company I, was somewhat bruised by the limb of a tree striking him on the head, but has since returned to duty. The list accompanying this report will show the number of enlisted men and others killed and wounded.

Night at last closed in and ended this unequal combat—unequal, because our men were compelled, to a great extent, to be spectators and sufferers without being allowed to be actors in the scene. I threw out skirmishers to the front of the regiment, and the men were ordered to lie down on their arms and forbidden to make fires. Our skirmishers soon came upon the enemy seeking his wounded, and, through misapprehension, some of my men took the horse of a rebel surgeon and 4 prisoners. I sent the horse back, and directed the messenger to say, without mentioning from whom the message came, that it was regretted that the men were taken, but, under the circumstances, they could not be released at present, but would be at the first fitting opportunity. The men themselves were quite pleased at the idea. Two more were brought

in to me, being reported to have given themselves up and to be anxious to leave the Confederate service. I questioned them, and finding that it was entirely voluntary on their part, I sent them to General Hascall, who took charge of them. I also sent out an ambulance, under charge of Dr. Woodruff, who brought in a number of our own wounded from the field. The others the next day I sent to the rear. I had no paper on which to express the facts; but if they can be identified hereafter (as they can be by some of my regiment) they ought to be returned.

Recapitulation of killed and wounded.

	Killed.	Wounded.
Commissioned officers	1	6
Enlisted men	32	32
Non-commissioned staff		1
Total	33	39
Aggregate		45

Of the above, one commissioned officer died shortly after. I have not included in the above some of those who have been killed and wounded from among men detailed from the regiment in other parts of the service.

Troops, I think, could not have behaved better than did the One hundredth. Considering that it was a new regiment; that since being mustered into the United States service its time has been almost entirely consumed in marching, precluding proper opportunities of drilling, and that its officers generally were new, it must be confessed, I trust and think, it did well. Where all did well, then, it is unnecessary to specify individual cases.

Respectfully,

F. A. BARTLESON,
Colonel One hundredth Illinois Infantry.

Capt. EDMUND R. KERSTETTER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS ONE HUNDRETH ILLINOIS INFANTRY,
January 5, 1863.

The following is a continuation of my report after December 31, 1862, commencing with the operations of January 1, being supplementary to a report just made to General Hascall, through his adjutant-general:

Very early the next morning (January 1, 1863) we were ordered to change our position, which we did, but nothing was done that day. About 9 or 10 p. m. an order came to proceed to the front, which we did, in conjunction with the rest of the brigade, and relieved the Pioneer Corps, which was on duty there. Everything passed off quietly at night, but in the morning, while my regiment, which had been in the front line all night, was being relieved by the Twenty-sixth Ohio, the enemy opened upon us with artillery.

We took up our position, notwithstanding, and were subjected, for a considerable space of time, to one of the most severe fires that troops can experience. The men lay in that position all day, without rations

that day or the night before, and sunk deep in the mud. This made the second night without sleep, and, one might say, almost without food. Private George H. Atkins, Company K, was killed by a solid shot, which penetrated him and severed his arm from his body.

We were here the spectators, to a considerable extent, of the fight on the left, which took place on the afternoon of the 2d. Near dark our regiment, with the remainder of the brigade, after being formed in line, and our skirmishers skirmishing with the enemy, proceeded to ford the creek on the left, which we did, and at last bivouacked in a terrible rain for the night.

On the morning of January 3, with the rest of our brigade, we took our position behind the rail barricades or breastworks, relieving the Twentieth Brigade. Nothing transpired, except one of the most constant rains, lasting day and night. Early the next morning we recrossed to our present position.

Troops could not have behaved better than did the One hundredth. Considering that it is a new regiment; that its time has been mostly occupied heretofore in marching, furnishing but small opportunity for drilling; that most of its officers were new, it must be acknowledged that it did good service. Where all do well, it is unnecessary to specify individual cases.

The following is a list of the killed: Private George H. Atkins, Company K.

The above brings down the report to the time of occupying this present camp.

Respectfully,

F. A. BARTLESON,
Colonel One hundredth Illinois Infantry.

Capt. J. G. ELWOOD,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Brigade.

No. 104.

Report of Lieut. Col. James T. Embree, Fifty-eighth Indiana Infantry.

HDQRS. FIFTY-EIGHTH REGIMENT INDIANA VOLUNTEERS,
January —, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the Fifty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteers came under my command on the evening of December 31, 1862, after the close of that day's action, George P. Buell, colonel of the regiment, having been called to the command of the brigade.

About daybreak, January 1, 1863, this regiment received orders and took position as part of the reserve on the left wing of the army, and retained that position during the entire day, and consequently was not in action.

At 10 p. m. of the same day the regiment was posted on the front line, in the left wing of the army, and retained this position until 9 p. m. January 2.

During this time the regiment was not engaged in action, but was, about 10 a. m., January 2, subjected to a severe fire from the enemy's artillery, discharging into its ranks a large number of solid shot and shell, by which 2 enlisted men were severely wounded.

About 5 p. m. of this day an attack was made by the enemy on the

right flank of the regiment, while the regiment was being moved to a new position, which it had been ordered to occupy. The front of the regiment was immediately changed, and skirmishers thrown forward to meet the skirmishers of the enemy, and soon succeeded in driving the enemy from the field without loss to the regiment. At 9 p. m., January 2, the regiment, in pursuance of orders received, crossed the river on the left, and took position on the front line of the left wing of our army, which position it held until the morning of January 4, when it was moved to its present position in the field, in the rear of the army.

During the time the regiment held position south of Stone's River—the night of the 2d and the day and night of January 3—the regiment was not engaged in action.

The loss of the regiment during the time covered by this report was but 2 enlisted men, wounded.

Respectfully,

JAMES T. EMBREE,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Comdg. Fifty-eighth Regt. Indiana Vols.

No. 105.

Report of Col. Samuel McKee, Third Kentucky Infantry, of skirmishes near La Vergne and Stewart's Creek Bridge, December 27.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD KENTUCKY INFANTRY,
Stewart's Creek, Tenn., December 28, 1862.

SIR: In obedience to the command of Brig. Gen. Milo S. Hascall, commanding Fifteenth Brigade, about 10 o'clock a. m. on yesterday, at a point about one-half mile west of the town of La Vergne, I posted my regiment in the rear of the Fifty-eighth Indiana Volunteers, forming the right of the rear line of the Fifteenth Brigade. In this position I moved forward through the town to a point about 1½ miles east, along the right of the Murfreesborough pike. Here my regiment was ordered forward to relieve the Fifty-eighth Indiana. On taking the position in advance, thereby becoming the right of the front line, Companies A (Lieutenant Powell), B (Lieutenant Hogan), and C (Captain Ralston), all under the command of Major Collier, were deployed, and at once thrown forward to relieve the skirmishers of the Fifty-eighth Indiana. These companies had no sooner taken their positions and commenced to advance than they were met by a galling fire from the rebels, ambuscaded behind a dense thicket of cedar. Their fire was promptly returned with such effect as to drive the enemy at once in confusion from their hiding place. But they being mounted, whilst we were afoot, were enabled readily [to avail themselves] of every advantage of position that presented itself from the time we first met them until we reached this place. Driven from one shelter they quickly sought another, but at no point tarried longer than to receive one or two rounds from their pursuers.

Major Collier was constantly, and with great gallantry, riding from one end of the line to the other, encouraging the skirmishers forward, and to him is attributable the fact that we were enabled to steadily [press] forward, though the ground over which we had to pass was a continuous succession of dense thickets and soft corn ground, both rendered almost entirely impassable, except by the most devious routes, by a drenching

rain, which fell upon us in torrents, from the time my regiment took the front until reaching this point, a distance of about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

During the advance the enemy were dislodged from not less than five or six of their hiding places. They frequently retained their fire until we had approached within less than 100 paces. They having the advantage of both short range and deliberate aim, yet we were so shielded by an overruling Providence that not a single casualty happened my entire regiment, though several were known to befall the enemy. But their number I have no means of ascertaining.

Of all the achievements of the day, that happening at this point was the most fortunate for the successful advance of the army, and the one for which the parties engaged should be most commended. On approaching Stewart's Creek, which at this place it is almost impossible to ford at this season, the skirmishers discovered that the retreating rebels had, some moments before, fired the bridge; the flames were already reaching high in the air; our battery and one of the enemy, both posted on the pike on opposite sides of the bridge, were shelling each other, many of the missiles from both falling on and near the bridge, and within rifle shot on the east of the creek stood a company of rebel cavalry. The moment was critical. Captain Ralston called for volunteers to extinguish the flames. Without the least hesitation, Major Collier's entire line, with a number of the Twenty-sixth Ohio, then near the same point, rushed forward, and in a moment extinguished the flame and saved the bridge, all escaping unhurt.

I was soon after ordered by General Hascall to post my entire regiment as a guard to the bridge. I at once moved up the rest of my command, and have them now posted at this point.

Very respectfully,

SAM. MCKEE,

Colonel, Commanding Third Kentucky Infantry.

Capt. EDMUND R. KERSTETTER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 106.

Reports of Maj. Daniel R. Collier, Third Kentucky Infantry.

HDQRS. THIRD REGIMENT KENTUCKY VOLUNTEERS,
Camp near Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 5, 1863.

SIR: By order of Brig. Gen. Milo S. Hascall, commanding brigade, I herewith submit a report of the part taken by the Third Regiment Kentucky Volunteers in the action at this place on Wednesday, December 31, 1862.

At 10 a. m. the regiment was ordered to form, and was marched to its first position on the east of the railroad, fronting toward the right of our army, where the battle was raging fiercest, and our forces, overwhelmed by superior numbers, were falling back, contesting stubbornly, inch by inch, the ground which they were forced to give up. Our regiment, with the Twenty-sixth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry on our right, formed the front line, while the Fifty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteers, with the One hundredth Illinois Volunteers on its right, formed the second line.

We lay in that position until about 10.30 o'clock, when we were ordered to the front to the support of Colonel Hazen's brigade, which was

being attacked by greatly superior numbers. We crossed the railroad, and, marching by the right flank at double-quick, fled to the right across the turnpike, and formed in an open field on the right of the Ninth Indiana, of Colonel Hazen's brigade, our left resting on the turnpike. The men were ordered to lie down, and immediately the firing commenced, the enemy having advanced in two lines to within 200 yards of our position.

We held our position under a galling cross-fire until 1 p. m., when, a regiment which had formed on our right giving way, we were ordered to fall back about 25 yards across the turnpike, to guard against a flank movement which the enemy threatened from the woods on our right.

We occupied our new position about an hour, when, our ammunition having been entirely expended and the guns becoming so foul that it was impossible to load them, we were ordered to fall behind the railroad, about 50 yards in rear of our old position, to fix bayonets and receive the enemy, should they approach nearer, with cold steel.

We lay in this position until 4 p. m., when we were ordered to the rear to replenish our stock of ammunition and clean the guns. We marched half a mile to the rear, and had scarcely filled our cartridge-boxes and wiped out the guns when we were called upon by the commanding officer of _____ battery to support him against a strong force of the enemy, who were approaching our left from the east side of the river. A few rounds from the battery caused the enemy to retire.

We were in line on the left of the battery when General Rosecrans came up, and in person ordered us to advance and take position in a corn-field within about 200 yards of the river. This position we held until about 2 a. m. of Thursday, the men lying on their arms.

The regiment went into the fight with Samuel McKee, colonel commanding; Maj. Daniel R. Collier, acting lieutenant-colonel, and Adjt. W. A. Bullitt, acting major. There were in the regiment 13 officers of the line and 300 men, rank and file.

Colonel McKee fell at 11 o'clock, after we had been engaged half an hour, and when the contest was at his height. A minie ball striking him over the right eye, he fell from his horse and expired almost immediately. A truer patriot, a braver man, or better Christian never fell fighting in defense of truth and liberty—worshipped by his men, respected and loved by the officers, our colonel would have desired no fitter mausoleum than that in the midst of dead and dying comrades.

I was wounded twice during the engagement, but did not leave the field. The horse of Adjutant Bullitt was shot under him. Our hospital was captured by the enemy about 12 m., and our surgeon, Hector Owens, was taken prisoner, but released after having been kept four days. Our men and officers, without exception, acted bravely, and to give you a list of those who distinguished themselves would be but to give you our muster-roll.

Out of 13 officers of the line, 9 were disabled; of the enlisted men, there were killed, 12; wounded, 77; missing, 34. Total, 123.

Many of the wounded have died since the report was compiled. The number of killed and wounded is here stated as it was the day of the fight.

Respectfully,

DANIEL R. COLLIER,

Major, Commanding Third Kentucky Volunteer Infantry.

Capt. EDMUND R. KERSTETTER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD KENTUCKY VOLUNTEERS,
Near Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 5, 1863.

Order of Col. George P. Buell, I herewith submit a report taken by the Third Regiment Kentucky Volunteers in the morn-
ing of January 1.

On the morning of January 1, I moved my regiment, at 2 a. m., west of the railroad, and formed on the right of the One hundredth Illinois, the Fifty-eighth Indiana and Twenty-sixth Ohio in our rear. We remained in this position, ready at any time to meet an attack, but nothing of note with the exception of an occasional shell passing over the high which we shielded ourselves from by lying flat on the ground. We moved to a skirt of woods about 500 yards to the front, where the Third Battalion of Pioneers, where we remained during

the night of January 2, we remained in the position occupied the night before. During part of the time we were under a heavy fire from the batteries.

In the afternoon we marched, with the balance of the brigade, across the field, where we formed in line in an open field. After standing under some time in a drenching rain, we withdrew to a skirt of woods near our position, where we bivouacked for the night.

On January 3, about 7 a. m., we marched to the front, and took up the second line in rear of the fortifications, where we remained until about 1 p. m., when we moved forward and occupied the position held by the Fifty-eighth Indiana, where we remained until

the morning of January 4, we recrossed the river about 2 a. m., and went on to the west of the railroad. The day was mostly spent in digging graves and burying the dead.

Very respectfully, yours,

DANIEL R. COLLIER,
Major, Commanding.

J. ELWOOD,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Brigade.

No. 107.

*Report of Capt. William H. Squires, Twenty-sixth Ohio Infantry, including
his command at La Vergne and on the Murfreesborough pike, at Stewart's
Creek.*

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-SIXTH OHIO VOLUNTEER INFANTRY,
In Field, near La Vergne, December 28, 1862.

I have the honor to report the following as the part performed by the Twenty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, under my command, on the morning of January 1:

At 11 and 12 o'clock I first received orders to form the regiment in line, and deploy my flanking companies as skirmishers. This was done, and the order to advance being given, my skirmishers were ordered to enter La Vergne at a double-quick. On reaching the town, the firing on them became very severe, and at this time I received the order to advance my regiment at a double-quick to the town. This was performed by the regiment to my entire satisfaction.

Having passed the town, the regiment, owing to the dense

woods and the difficulty of seeing our proper position, obliqued too far to the left, and a part of it was thrown on the left of the railroad, and encountered considerable opposition from a force of the enemy's cavalry, which were finally driven forward. After dispersing this body of cavalry, I received orders to move over to the turnpike, which I did, and was there relieved by the One hundredth Illinois Volunteers, which I was then ordered to support. I then advanced on a line with the Fifty-eighth Indiana to the present point, and, in obedience to orders, was moving my regiment to the rear for the purpose of camping, when I received orders to change front and form on line with the One hundredth Illinois, to cut off the retreat of the enemy's cavalry, which, at this time, were endeavoring to escape by cutting their way through to the turnpike in advance of our forces. This force of the enemy having escaped by passing to the left of the line, I was ordered to camp my regiment. I regret to report the following loss of enlisted men in my regiment, nearly all of which occurred during the execution of the order to charge through the town, viz: Company A, 1 man wounded; Company B, 2 wounded; Company C, 1 wounded; Company D, 2 wounded; Company F, 1 killed and 2 wounded; Company H, 4 wounded; Company I, 3 wounded; Company K, 2 wounded; total, 17 wounded and 1 killed. In considering the circumstances under which the regiment went into the engagement, to wit, with but 1 acting field officer, 1 acting staff officer, 11 commissioned line officers, and 380 men, under arms, and the fact of the men being heavily laden, their clothes and contents of knapsacks being very wet, I have every reason to be satisfied with their conduct. I would also report the fact that Captain Ewing, of Company B, and in command of my skirmishers, not having received the order to return to the regiment when relieved by the companies of the One hundredth Illinois, remained in advance of the skirmishers of the One hundredth, and, with the men under his command and the assistance of a few of the skirmishers of the Third Kentucky, saved the bridge a half a mile to our front and on the main pike. Not having received any report from the surgeons in charge of my wounded, I am unable to state the character of their wounds, though most of them are reported to be severe. In numbers, however, I believe the list of casualties to be perfectly correct.

My company officers deserve my most sincere thanks for their efforts and the success attained in keeping the men well in hand and perfectly cool.

I have the honor to be, yours, very respectfully,

W. H. SQUIRES,

Commanding Twenty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry.

Capt. EDMUND R. KERSTETTER.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-SIXTH OHIO VOLUNTEER INFANTRY,
In Field, January 5, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to report the following movements on the part of the Twenty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry on January 1:

At an early hour in the morning I was ordered to fall back with my regiment from the position in which I had been placed by Colonel Wagner and join the Fifteenth Brigade. We were then drawn back and formed a reserve near and at right angles to the railroad.

At night the regiment was thrown across the railroad and into a hollow, for the purpose of allowing the men to build fires.

At 9 p. m. we were ordered forward to relieve the Pioneer Brigade, and the regiment was formed in rear of the Fifty-eighth Indiana as a support. This position was held all night. There were no casualties in the regiment on this day.

On the morning of January 2, the regiment was ordered forward to relieve the One hundredth Illinois and support the Eighth Indiana Battery, on our left flank, and the Board of Trade Battery, on the center and right. Immediately after taking this position the batteries of the enemy opened on our artillery, and severe fighting ensued.

During the day the enemy's skirmishers, advancing under cover, annoyed our line, and were twice driven back by our own skirmishers. Immediately after sundown the regiment, with the brigade, were thrown across the creek, and, being held in reserve, were thrown back into the woods and allowed fires.

The casualties of this day were 2 men killed and 8 wounded, most of which were caused by the artillery of the enemy.

On the morning of January 3, the regiment was ordered to relieve the Sixty-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry and occupy the breastworks built during the previous night. In this position the regiment remained during the day and night, nothing of interest occurring and no casualties taking place.

On the morning of January 4, the regiment recrossed the creek and was placed in camp in the present position.

In conclusion, I will add that the Twenty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry entered into the engagement of December 31 with 374 guns, and lost during the interval a total of 1 commissioned officer killed and 2 wounded, and 9 enlisted men killed and 72 wounded. Many others were struck, and so slightly wounded as not to unfit them for duty, and are, therefore, not mentioned in this report.

I cannot mention in particular any of my officers, as each one seemed to vie with the other in deeds and examples of good conduct. The men, with a very few exceptions, behaved nobly, though a few, I regret to say, skulked to the rear.

I have the honor to be, yours, very respectfully,

W. H. SQUIRES,

Captain, Commanding Twenty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry.

Captain ELWOOD,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Brigade.

No. 108.

Report of Col. George D. Wagner, Fifteenth Indiana Infantry, commanding Second Brigade.

HDQES. SECOND BRIG., FIRST DIV., LEFT WING,
DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND,
On the Field, near Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 6, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to report the following as to the position and part taken by my brigade in the great battle of the last few days:

On the morning of the 31st ultimo my command was formed in order of battle, the right resting on the Murfreesborough road, about 2 miles from the town, and the left resting to the left of the railroad; one

section of Cox's battery commanding the pike, the remainder of the battery posted so as to command either side of the railroad.

While in this position I received an order to move forward. My skirmishers immediately became engaged with the enemy, and the enemy's artillery shelling my lines. There was a fearful battle going on at this time on our extreme right. I received orders to proceed no farther, but, if attacked, to hold my position. General Hascall's and Colonel Harker's brigades were posted on my left, but were soon after withdrawn; this made it necessary to extend my lines to the left, so as to prevent the enemy crossing Stone's River at a ford which had been held by Colonel Harker, and that I was now ordered to hold at all hazards by General Wood.

I accordingly moved all my brigade to the left of the railroad, with one section of Cox's battery at the railroad; the other sections were posted directly in front of the ford, on the crest of a hill, supported by the Fifty-seventh Indiana Volunteers, and in such position as to rake the front both to the right and left. Directly in front of this position, on the opposite side of the river, on an elevation defended by earthworks, were posted two of the enemy's batteries and a large force of infantry, under command of General Breckinridge. This was mainly the position of my command when the enemy made the first vigorous assault in front, which, after a long and continued struggle, was repulsed with great slaughter of the enemy, but to return in still greater force.

Learning that General Hascall, on the right of the road, was hard pressed, I sent the Ninety-seventh Ohio to re-enforce him, which did good service as they took position on the flank, and were sheltered by the nature of the ground from the fire of the enemy, and which prevented the enemy from raking our lines from the woods on the right. Colonel Lane maintained this position throughout the day. The enemy at this time had gained the woods on this side of the river, and I ordered the Fifteenth Indiana, supported by the Fifty-seventh Indiana, to advance to meet them. Captain Cox's battery, supported by the Fortieth Indiana, opened on them with canister and soon drove them back. At the same time they were repulsed in front by General Hascall, but only to return, as before, in greater force, this time evidently determined to carry my position, as a brigade was thrown on this side of the river, under cover of the woods in my front, at only about 300 yards distant.

Cox's battery had exhausted nearly all of their ammunition, and had tried in vain to procure more, which made it necessary for me to rely mainly on the infantry to dislodge the enemy from this position. I preferred making the attack myself rather than waiting an assault from them. I ordered forward the Fifteenth Indiana, supported by the Fifty-seventh Indiana, being all the troops I had in hand, the Fortieth Indiana being hotly engaged on the right of the railroad, with the left resting upon the river, so as to completely enfilade the enemy's line.

At this time Colonel Hines and Lieutenant-Colonel Leonard, of the Fifty-seventh Indiana, were severely wounded, and had to leave the field. From this position I directed Lieutenant-Colonel Wood, commanding Fifteenth Indiana Volunteers, to charge the enemy at a double-quick, and nobly did he and his men execute the order, killing, wounding, and capturing nearly one entire regiment, and driving two others in utter rout from the field; and nobly was the movement seconded by the Fifty-seventh Indiana Volunteers, although they had lost all their field officers; they poured volley after volley into the enemy, thereby aiding greatly to the success of the movements. Captain Cox's battery

gave them the last shot they had in the locker, thereby making the rout complete.

The Fifteenth Indiana lost in this charge about 30 killed and near 100 wounded; but the rebels were not yet whipped, as they returned again in force, my infantry slowly retiring and fighting their way back. By this time we were prepared for their reception, as Captain Cox had procured some ammunition, and I ordered Lieutenant Estep's Eighth Indiana Battery into position with four guns; when the enemy came within canister range, they were literally swept away and driven back in utter confusion. The artillery was supported at this time by the Twenty-sixth Ohio, under command of the gallant Major Squires.

Night coming on put an end to the conflict; and allow me to say I found my command as far to the front as they were in the morning, and the noble dead of this brigade lay nearer the enemy's position than that of any other. It must be remembered that during the entire day the enemy's guns directly in my front, at 1,000 yards distant, and defended by earthworks from the effect of our artillery, kept up a continual fire of shot and shell, and every movement of my troops had to be made under this fearful fire. And I desire thus publicly to state of the men of my command that in this trying ordeal they proved themselves soldiers of the highest order. They remained in this position during the night without fire, shivering with cold as they lay upon the bloody field, yet not a murmur escaped them.

To Captain Cox's battery, officers and men, I am greatly indebted for the result of this day; they were under a continual fire, and much of it a cross-fire from the enemy's artillery, which was securely protected, while Captain Cox was in an open field, without even a tree to screen him from view; yet when their ammunition was exhausted the only cry of the captain and his men was for more ammunition.

The morning of the 1st, in accordance with orders from General Hascall, I formed my command on the right of Colonel Beatty's division, whose left rested upon the river, some half a mile to the rear of the position of the day before, with Colonel Harker upon my right. Soon after daylight the enemy attacked us warmly, but were soon driven off by the artillery.

My advance still held the grove on the left of my position of the 31st ultimo, which the enemy seemed determined to drive me from. I re-enforced this point and held it during the day, although repeatedly attacked by the enemy.

Things remained in this position until the morning of the 2d. The enemy having, during the night, thrown across the river in our front a large force, they opened upon our lines with a fearful storm of artillery, which, however, did but little execution on my lines, but was directed to Colonel Harker's command, on my right. They were soon silenced and driven off by our artillery. The enemy again attempted to drive my men from the woods on the left. I obtained re-enforcements for that position from General Cruft, which enabled us to hold that position until the attack in the evening, made upon Colonel Beatty, when I was ordered by General Hascall to cross the river to his support. When we arrived on the opposite side the enemy were already repulsed.

Night coming on, we lay upon the field. The troops under my command were not engaged on the 4th.

Allow me, in closing this report, to say that, with one single exception, the commanders of regiments and field officers showed themselves worthy of the positions they hold. Lieutenant-Colonel Wood, Fifteenth Indiana, had his horse shot under him; Colonel Lane, Ninety-seventh Ohio, behaved with the coolness of a veteran; Lieutenant-Colonel Neff,

commanding Fortieth Indiana Volunteers, unfortunately was wounded early in the action, devolving the command on Major Leaming, to whom I am under obligations for the manner in which he handled his regiment; Colonel Hines, Fifty-seventh Indiana, was wounded about the middle of the afternoon, while at the head of his regiment, gallantly leading them to the attack of the enemy. Lieutenant-Colonel Lennard was wounded about the same time, devolving the command of that regiment on Captain McGraw, who deserves special commendation for the manner in which he performed his trust.

It is impossible for me to name the officers who did well, as they nearly all did so, but will leave with the regimental commanders the duty of doing them justice, but must be allowed to pay one last tribute to the noble dead, Captains Foster and Templeton, of the Fifteenth Indiana, who fell while leading their men in the charge upon the foe. May their country not forget them.

The exception above alluded to in my commendation of officers was Col. J. W. Blake, Fortieth Indiana Volunteers, who, upon the field, became so intoxicated as to be entirely unfit for duty. I ordered him to report to General Wood under arrest, since which time I have not seen him, but report says he is in Nashville a paroled prisoner. This was about noon on the 31st, before his regiment had become engaged.

The casualties are as follows:

The Fifteenth Indiana Volunteers—officers killed, 2; wounded, 7; enlisted men killed, 36; wounded, 136; missing, 7. Total killed, wounded, and missing, 188.

The Fifty-seventh Indiana Volunteers—officers wounded, 6; enlisted men killed, 11; wounded, 55; missing, 6. Total killed, wounded, and missing, 78.

The Fortieth Indiana Volunteers—officers wounded, 5; enlisted men killed, 4; wounded, 63; missing, 13. Total killed, wounded, and missing, 85.

The Ninety-seventh Ohio Volunteers—enlisted men killed, 3; wounded, 15; missing, 6. Total killed, wounded, and missing, 24.

Total number of men of the brigade killed, wounded, and missing, 375; total number of men engaged, 1,475; number of men for duty on the morning of the 2d, 1,100.

The Fifteenth Indiana Volunteers captured 171 prisoners, most of them belonging to the Thirteenth Louisiana.

The members of my personal staff present on the field, Capt. Henry C. Tinney, acting assistant adjutant-general; Captain Warren and Lieut. W. M. Casterline, aides-de-camp, and of my escort, rendered me efficient service during the engagement, frequently carrying orders through such a storm of bullets that it was extremely doubtful whether they would live to deliver them.

Which is respectfully submitted.

Your obedient servant,

G. D. WAGNER,
Colonel, Commanding.

No. 109.

Report of Lieut. Col. Gustavus A. Wood, Fifteenth Indiana Infantry.

FIFTEENTH REGIMENT INDIANA VOLUNTEERS,
Camp near Murfreesborough, Tenn., January 9, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to present you herewith a report of the opera-