

THE

WAR OF THE REBELLION:

A COMPILATION OF THE

OFFICIAL RECORDS

OF THE

UNION AND CONFEDERATE ARMIES.

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

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

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

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1887.

SECOND DIVISION.

1st Arkansas, Col. John W. Colquhitt.

13th Arkansas.

15th Arkansas.

5th Confederate, Col. J. A. Smith.

2d Tennessee, Col. W. D. Robison.

5th Tennessee, Col. B. J. Hill.

Helona (Ark.) Artillery, Lieut. T. J. Key.

Brig. Gen. L. E. POLK.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. L. E. POLK.

Third Brigade.

Brig. Gen. BUSHNOD R. JOHNSON.

17th Tennessee:

23d Tennessee, Lieut. Col. W. W. Floyd.

25th Tennessee; Lieut. Col. Samuel Davis.

37th Tennessee; Maj. J. T. McReynolds.

44th Tennessee, Col. John S. Fulton.

Jefferson (Miss.) Artillery, Capt. Put Darden.

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

16th Alabama, Col. W. B. Wood.

3d Confederate, Maj. J. F. Cameron.

45th Mississippi, Lieut. Col. R. Charlton.

15th Mississippi Battalion Sharpshooters, Capt. A. T. Hawkins.

Alabama Battery, Capt. Henry C. Semple.

First Brigade:†

Brig. Gen. M. D. ECTOR.

10th Texas Cavalry, Col. M. F. Locke.

11th Texas Cavalry; Lieut. Col. J. C. Burks.

14th Texas Cavalry, Col. J. L. Camp.

15th Texas Cavalry, Col. J. A. Andrews.

Texas Battery, Capt. J. P. Douglas.

1st Arkansas Mounted Rifles:†

2d Arkansas Mounted Rifles,† Lieut. Col. J. A. Williamson.

4th Arkansas, Col. H. G. Bunn.

Third Brigade.

Brig. Gen. EVANDER McNAIR.

Col. R. W. HARPER.

3d Georgia Battalion, Lieut. Col. M. A. Skovall.

9th Georgia Battalion, Maj. Joseph T. Smith.

29th North Carolina, Col. R. B. Vance.

11th Tennessee; Lieut. Col. William Theford.

Enfante (Ala.) Light Artillery, Lieut. W. A. McDuffie.

CAVALRY.*

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH WHEELER.

Wheeler's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH WHEELER.

1st Alabama, Col. W. W. Allen.

3d Alabama; Maj. F. Y. Gaines.

51st Alabama; Capt. T. H. Mauldin.

Lieut. Col. J. D. Webb.

8th Confederate, Col. James E. Carter.

Tennessee Battalion, DeWitt C. Douglass.

Tennessee Battalion, Maj. D. W. Holman.

Arkansas Battery, Capt. J. H. Wiggins.

Brig. Gen. A. BURROD.

3d Kentucky, Col. J. R. Butler.

5th Kentucky, Col. D. H. Smith.

6th Kentucky, Col. J. W. Grigsby.

Wharton's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHN A. WHARTON.

14th Alabama Battalion, Lieut. Col. James C. Malone.

1st Confederate, Col. John T. Cox.

3d Confederate, Lieut. Col. William N. Estes.

2d Georgia; Lieut. Col. J. E. Dunlop.

3d Georgia (detachment), Maj. R. Thompson.

2d Tennessee, Col. H. M. Ashby.

4th Tennessee, Col. Baxter Smith.

8th Texas, Col. Thomas Harrison.

Murray's (Tennessee) regiment, Maj. W. S. Bledsoe.

Escort company, Capt. Paul F. Anderson.

McCowan's escort company, Capt. L. T. Hardy.

White's (Tennessee) battery, Capt. B. F. White, jr.

ARTILLERY.†

Baxter's (Tennessee) battery.

Byrnes' (Kentucky) battery.

Gibson's (Georgia) battery.

No. 190.

Reports of General Braxton Bragg, C. S. Army, commanding Army of Tennessee, with congratulatory orders, &c.

MURFREESBOROUGH, TENN., December 30, 1862.

(Received at Richmond, Va., January 1, 1863.)

General S. COOPER.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

Artillery firing at intervals and heavy skirmishing of light troops all day. Enemy very cautious, and declining a general engagement. Armies are in line of battle within sight.

* Forrest's and Morgan's commands on detached service. † Probably incomplete. ‡ Byrnes' battery mentioned in Breckenridge's report. The others do not appear to have been engaged in the campaign. Baxter's battery reported as at Shelbyville, December 31, and Gibson's was ordered, December 1, 1862, to Chattanooga, Tenn., to be fitted for the field.

Return of casualties in the Confederate forces—Continued.

Command	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.		Aggregate.	Officers killed.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.		
Wood's Brigade—Cont'd.								
33d Alabama.....	14	14	3	83	86	1	101	
3d Confederate.....	5	5	24	27	37	37	69	Capt. J. D. Peadar.
45th Mississippi.....	4	5	35	39	6	64	70	Capt. D. Coleman.
15th Battalion, Missis- sipi Sharpshooters.....	1	2	3	25	25	5	5	
Sample's battery.....	1	1	1	18	19		20	
Total.....	7	45	52	20	319	6	107	118
Johnson's Brigade.								
Staff.....								
17th Tennessee.....	1	16	17	10	154	6	20	26
23d Tennessee.....	3	3	8	8	40	2	13	15
25th Tennessee.....	1	15	16	11	78	2	13	15
37th Tennessee.....	1	10	11	6	45	1	1	2
44th Tennessee.....	1	13	14	15	121	1	1	2
Darden's battery.....					6			6
Total.....	4	57	61	46	442	9	48	57
Liddell's Brigade.								
Staff.....								
2d Arkansas.....	1	13	9	94	94	0	0	118
6th Arkansas.....	1	11	12	126	135	1	1	148
6th and 7th Arkansas.....	3	20	29	128	140	8	8	177
8th Arkansas.....	4	25	29	114	124			153
Sweet's battery.....		1		7	7			8
Total.....	8	78	86	33	470	18	18	607
Polk's Brigade.								
1st Arkansas.....	11	11	9	81	90	1	1	102
13th and 15th Arkansas.....	4	4	2	47	53	5	5	68
5th Confederate.....	7	7	9	55	64	12	12	83
2d Tennessee.....	2	2	4	53	59			63
6th Tennessee.....	1	1	1	23	24			25
Calvert's battery.....		3		2	2	1	1	6
Total.....	2	28	30	27	298	19	19	347
McCOWN'S DIVISION.								
Edger's Brigade.								
Grand total Cle- burne's division.....	21	208	229	138	1,492	1,630	15	192
Grand total Har- des's corps.....	47	450	497	251	1,796	3,047	18	565
Grand total Har- des's corps.....	47	450	497	251	1,796	3,047	18	565
Staff.....								
10th Texas Cavalry*.....	10	10	12	81	83	1	14	15
11th Texas Cavalry*.....	8	8	10	79	89	3	15	18

* Dismounted.

Officers killed:
Lieut. A. J. Jones.
Capt. J. T. Armstrong
and Lieut. J. L. Mc-
Collum and Henry
Fisher.
Lieut. T. H. Beard, S. B.
Cole, Calvin East, and
H. J. McCurdy.
Capt. C. P. Moore and
Lieut. J. L. Gilford.

Return of casualties in the Confederate forces—Continued.

Command	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.		Aggregate.	Officers killed.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.		
Edger's Brigade—Cont'd.								
14th Texas Cavalry*.....	5	5	10	42	52	1	11	12
15th Texas Cavalry*.....	5	5	5	31	36	3	3	8
Douglas's battery.....				2	2			2
Total.....	28	28	39	257	276	5	43	46
Kearns' Brigade.								
3d Georgia Battalion.....	6	6	5	28	33			39
9th Georgia Battalion.....	1	1	2	9	11			12
29th North Carolina.....	5	5	3	47	50	5	5	60
11th Tennessee.....	8	8	10	54	64	11	11	83
Embula (Ala.) Artillery.....				3	3			5
Total.....	20	20	20	141	161	18	18	189
McVay's Brigade.								
1st Arkansas Rifles.....	9	9	13	69	82	4	4	95
2d Arkansas Rifles.....	1	9	10	17	82	4	7	110
4th Arkansas Battalion.....	8	8	9	52	61	1	9	79
4th Arkansas Battalion.....	1	4	5	19	19	5	5	29
8th Arkansas.....	2	8	10	12	51	63	22	95
Humphreys's battery.....				1	5			6
Total.....	4	38	42	278	330	5	47	424
Escoffery's Brigade.								
Grand total Mc- Cown's division.....	4	88	92	111	638	769	10	109
JACKSON'S BRIGADE.								
5th Georgia.....	2	10	12	48	48			60
2d Georgia Battalion.....								
5th Sharpshooters.....	3	3	3	26	29			32
5th Mississippi.....	1	5	6	66	74			80
8th Mississippi.....	1	19	20	101	113			133
Total.....	4	37	41	241	294			305

RECAPITULATION

Polk's corps.....	54	547	601	282	3,404	3,686	5	161	166	4,433
Harde's corps.....	47	450	497	251	1,796	3,047	18	565	583	4,127
McCown's division.....	4	88	92	111	638	769	10	109	119	890
Jackson's brigade.....	4	37	41	23	241	284				305
Grand total.....	109	1,122	1,236	667	6,089	7,786	33	835	836	9,865

* Dismounted.

† Notes on original lists indicate that all these casualties except 4 of the wounded in Kaine's brigade, occurred December 31, 1862.
‡ Note on original list indicates that all these, except 1 man wounded January 2, 1863, occurred near Cowan's house, between 12 noon and 4 p. m., December 31, 1862.
§ No nominal lists for Buford's, Wharton's, or Wheeler's cavalry brigades; but see Introsure C to Bragg's report, p. 674. No returns from Pegram's cavalry brigade.

Col. William T. Black and Lieut. J. W. Ha-
son.
Capt. J. H. Morgan.
Lieut. J. J. Hood.

#224 Report of Lt. Gen. William S. Hardee

CS Army, Commanding Army Corps

774 KY, MID. AND E. TENN., N. ALA., AND SW. VA. [CHAR. XXXII]

great impetuosity and took prisoners the Seventy-fifth Illinois Regiment, Captain [S. P.] Christian, of the Texas Rangers [Eighth Texas Cavalry], with four companies, at the same time changed and took a complete battery of the enemy, with all its guns, caissons, horses, and artillery. By these dashes 1,500 prisoners fell into our hands. Wharton afterward swept around toward the Nashville turnpike, and found the enemy's cavalry in position to defend their menaced trains. Harrison, Ashby, and Hardy were ordered to charge. This was met by a counter-charge of the enemy, supposed to be the Fourth Regular Cavalry, who were routed in confusion. The entire cavalry force of the enemy was deployed beyond this point. Wharton's entire brigade was now ordered to charge; 2,000 horsemen dashed forward to the assault. The field was favorable, the charge irresistible, the conflict short. The enemy fled in wild dismay 2 miles beyond Overall's Creek, leaving in our hands several hundred wagons, 400 additional prisoners, and several pieces of artillery. The conduct of Wharton and his brigade cannot be too highly commended. After a day of brilliant achievements, he covered the left of my infantry at night.

Major-General McCown having failed to get McNair's brigade on the line of battle Tuesday night, as directed by me, the brigade was moved into position early the next morning, and McCown advanced with his division against the enemy, about 600 yards distant, with McNair on the right of Ector and with Rains' brigade on the left. The division of Major-General Cleburne was about 500 yards in rear of McCown, as a second line. The two divisions were posted on the left of Lieutenant-General Polk's command. The troops advanced with animation and soon became hotly engaged. The enemy were broken and driven through a cedar brake after a rapid and successful charge by McCown's command, in which Brigadier-General [August] Willich and many prisoners were taken.

A signal instance of courage was shown by Col. J. C. Burks, of the Eleventh Texas. This brave officer, though mortally wounded, still led and cheered on his regiment until he fell exhausted at its head.

Another instance was shown by Sergt. A. Sims, flag-bearer of the Tenth Texas, who, seeing a Federal flag-bearer endeavoring to rally his regiment, sprang forward, seized the standard, and in the struggle both were shot down, waving their flags with their last breath. The Federal flag was captured.

I had ordered McCown and Cleburne, as they crushed the line of the enemy, to swing round by a continued change of direction to the right, with Polk's left as a pivot, while Wharton was to make a diversion on their flank and rear. This was done by Cleburne, but was not so promptly executed by McCown, on account of the position of the enemy in his front. McCown continued westwardly, fighting toward Overall's Creek, far to our left, while Cleburne, executing the maneuver, changed his direction northwardly toward the Wilkinson turnpike, which placed him on the right of McCown and filled the interval between McCown and Polk. The line, now single and without support, engaged and drove the enemy with great carnage through the fields and cedar brakes which lie between the Triune and Wilkinson roads. Before this gap in the line was filled by Cleburne, McCown's right flank was exposed. McNair halted his brigade, while Liddell advanced gallantly, filling the interval, covered McNair's unprotected right, and engaged a superior force of the enemy posted behind a rail fence. These two brigades charged the enemy with impetuosity, took their battery, and pursued their broken and fleeing regiments before Ector and Rains could be brought into action.

Tulahoma March 11, 1862 Headquarters Army of Tennessee

CHAR. XXXII THE STONE'S RIVER CAMPAIGN. 775

General McNair left a sick bed to enter the battle, and after conducting his brigade with gallantry, becoming exhausted, was ordered to retire from the field. The command then devolved upon Colonel [R. W.] Harper.

By this time Liddell, who was upon the left of Johnson's brigade, had become separated from Cleburne's division by following the movement of McCown. The command was near the Wilkinson turnpike, at a point where the enemy had established a hospital. They had driven them nearly 2 miles. The men were greatly fatigued and their ammunition exhausted. As soon as this was replenished, I ordered them again to advance. Rains' brigade being fresh, was brought forward to the right to attack a battery, while Ector's, McNair's, and Liddell's brigades moved forward in the direction of the Nashville road. Ector and Harper, though enfiladed by a battery, forced their way through a cedar brake in which the enemy were posted, while Rains advanced upon the battery. Unfortunately, this brave officer and accomplished gentleman fell, shot through the heart, and his brigade recoiled in confusion. Ector and Harper were ordered to fall back under cover, while [J. T.] Humphreys' battery bravely engaged sixteen pieces of the enemy until our infantry were sheltered.

The divisions of McCown and Cleburne in single line had now driven the enemy, with great slaughter, for several miles through the cedar brakes toward the Nashville turnpike. Cleburne (originally formed with Brigadier-General Polk's brigade on the right, Johnson's in the center, and Liddell's on the left, with Wood's in reserve) had engaged the enemy shortly after McCown commenced the attack. Having changed direction toward the northeast, he encountered their first line, posted behind fences and in dense thickets, a little north of the Triune road. In the open ground beyond were other lines and batteries. Limestone rocks in the thickets furnished the enemy admirable natural defenses. The division dashed forward, and, after a bloody struggle of half an hour, hurled the first line back upon the second, which, in turn, was broken, and the mingled lines were driven in disorder toward the Wilkinson turnpike. Wood's brigade dispersed the One hundred and first Ohio and the brigade composed of the Thirty-eighth Illinois, the Twenty-first, Eighty-first, and Fifteenth Wisconsin. The Seventeenth Tennessee captured a Michigan battery, while the Second Arkansas [Mounted Rifles*] again routed the Twenty-second Indiana, capturing its colonel. This regiment is the same that the Second Arkansas had routed at Perryville, and which, during the campaign of last year, had behaved with such barbarity to the people of Arkansas. It was in this conflict that Colonel [A. S.] Marks, of the Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment, was severely wounded while gallantly leading and encouraging his men. It was also in this conflict that Liddell's and Johnson's brigades suffered their greatest loss. The enemy several times attempted to make a stand, but were each time forced back. Our troops were vigorously pressing forward, when a third line, strongly supported by artillery, stood revealed on the south side of the turnpike. The cannonade was fierce, but could not check our advance. After a stubborn combat the enemy were broken, and fled to the cedar brakes between the Nashville and Wilkinson turnpikes.

Cleburne was now in advance of Cheatham and Withers, and as he crossed the open grounds near the turnpike he was enfiladed by a battery posted on an eminence directly on his right flank. Captain [T. R.] Hitchkiss, acting chief of artillery of Cleburne's division, placed [J. H.]

* Dismounted.

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

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. MCNEILL,

Lieutenant-Colonel, Comdg. Eighth Mississippi Regiment.

No. 252.

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

BRIDGEPORT, ALA., January 10, 1863.

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

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

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

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

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

Respectfully submitted.

HARVEY H. CRIBBS,

First Lieutenant, Commanding Iamsdon's Battery.

No. 253.

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

HEADQUARTERS CLEBURNE'S DIVISION,

HARDEE'S CORPS, ARMY OF TENNESSEE,

Tullahoma, Tenn., January 31, 1863.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. R. CLEBURNE,
Major-General.

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

No. 254.

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

HEADQUARTERS POLK'S BRIGADE,

January 13, 1863.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

* Not found.

On the succeeding days of the fight, little fighting, other than skirmishing, occurred until our forces were withdrawn.

Respectfully, yours,

D. C. GOVAN,

Colonel, Commanding Second Arkansas Regiment.

[Capt.] G. A. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WARTRACE, TENN., March 4, 1863.

GENERAL: In accordance with your request, and after making diligent inquiry of the men and officers of my regiment in reference to the taking of the Yankee hospital near the Wilkinson pike, in the late battle of Murfreesborough, I beg leave to submit the following statement of facts:

When I made my report, I was under the impression that the right of my regiment passed on the left of the hospital. I have since been informed by Captain [E. G.] Brasher (commanding the right company) and others that one-half of this company passed on the right of the hospital, and a portion of it passed through the yard. One of his men was killed in the yard, within a few feet of the house, and two others wounded. Some dozen or more of my regiment were wounded in close proximity to the hospital. Private Elder, of Company D, Second Arkansas Regiment, left by you to guard the hospital and prisoners, stated as follows: That, in obedience to your orders, he and Private Faidley, of the same company, took possession of the hospital, which he understood was the residence of a Mr. Grissom. The yard was filled with Yankee tents and their wounded, together with about 250 prisoners. Prisoners were continually accumulating there, but were sent to Murfreesborough by General Cheatham's order. He did not see General Johnson's brigade until some time after he had been stationed there as a guard. Your brigade had then passed to the front, and there was no fighting at or about the hospital after that time.

The body of General Sill was brought to the hospital about 11 a. m. He was killed not far from the hospital, near the fence or lane. My regiment passed, still fighting, immediately over the ground where he was killed. Private Guest, of Company D, got General Sill's gloves and gave them to the captain of his company (Captain Brasher). He states that General Sill then had his uniform on, which he would have taken, but it was too large for him.

Private Faidley, of Company D, the man detailed as guard to the hospital, corroborates the statement of Private Elder, except that he says that he saw the **Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment**; General Johnson's brigade, come up within 75 yards of the hospital about fifteen minutes after your brigade passed on.

Very respectfully,

D. C. GOVAN,

Colonel, Commanding Second Arkansas Regiment.

Brig. Gen. ST. JOHN R. LIDDELL.

[Enclosure, 1]

GENERAL: The foregoing facts I submit for your consideration, and am personally familiar with most of them. Until it can be established

that men from other brigades in our army fell at Grissom's house, or hospital, the credit of its capture and the killing of Major-General Sill, U. S. Army, should justly belong to the Second Arkansas Regiment.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

ST. JOHN R. LIDDELL,

Brigadier-General.

Major-General [P. K.] CLEBURNE,
Tullahoma, Tenn.

No. 258.

WARTRACE, TENN., March 25, 1863.

Report of Lieut. Col. Reuben F. Harvey, Second Arkansas Infantry.

I wish to call your attention to a portion of the report of Colonel Floyd in regard to the capture of the Federal hospital commonly known as the Jenkins house. You discover from Colonel Floyd's report that there was a farm around the hospital, inclosed by fences, running as follows: On the south side running from southeast to northwest, or nearly so; on the north side running parallel with the above; a lane passing through the farm on the west of the hospital, running north and south to the Wilkinson pike, the pike running parallel with the fence, and that there was a skirt of woods south of the first-named fence south of the hospital, and that when his (Colonel Floyd's) regiment entered this skirt of woods we were some distance to his left and rear, and that Colonel Keeble says (whose regiment was between his left and our right) about this time your brigade passed still farther to the left, and that his line was being enveloped by the enemy, who seemed to be on a line with his regiment and to his left, and that he ordered the "forward" as soon as that line gave way. He also states that his regiment (the **Seventeenth Tennessee**) just before leaving this skirt of woods made a right half-wheel; otherwise would have passed on the west of the hospital; but [Lieutenant] Colonel Keeble states that when your brigade was last seen it was moving to the left, and also states that he passed up the lane and covered the hospital with three of his companies. This position would have thrown the Second Arkansas Regiment at least one-quarter of a mile west of the lane at the time of entering the skirt of woods, which was about a quarter of a mile wide, and after obliquing across this skirt of wood we would have been at least half a mile west of the lane.

Now, sir, the facts known to me and the officers of the Second Arkansas Regiment are as follows: First, that we drove a line of the enemy from behind the fences at the south end of the lane referred to and through the field to the hospital, distance about 250 yards, and beyond the Wilkinson pike; that a part of the regiment passed up the lane to the hospital, firing on the enemy retreating; that we were fired upon from and about the hospital; that we saw the enemy pass the hospital and cross the pike; that we did, after halting for some time at a fence running west from the hospital, move forward 300 yards beyond the hospital referred to, and then halted for ammunition. So you see, according to Colonel Floyd's report, before leaving the wood he was west of the lane when he moved forward, made a right half-wheel, and had to cross the fence south of the hospital; then both fences, making the lane in order to pass on the east of the hospital. Colonel Keeble being on his left, and we (according to his report) marching still to the left, where could we have gone to? Then, you see,

we had to march by the right flank about half a mile, then by the left flank in line of battle, in order that the right of the brigade might cover the mouth of the lane before entering the field, unless, however, the colonel will deny we approached the hospital by this route, which no man on earth need to deny. Did you, sir, make such a movement as that? No, sir; you pushed your brigade upon the enemy in a run, as straight forward as the nature of the case would admit, without any perceptible change of speed or direction until your ammunition became exhausted. You know that if any change of direction had been made up to this time it was to the right, as you know that General Hardee came to our lines early in the morning, and ordered a general change of direction to the right, which was made by your brigade so far as to lap one or more of the regiments of General Johnson's brigade. This, however, was corrected before any general engagement took place. The brigade rested at the pike about three-quarters of an hour, when General Johnson's brigade moved up and formed on our right. I do not say the **Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment** had not arrived up to this time to the position referred to in Colonel Floyd's report.

With reference to the capture of the Federal hospital, I should dislike for it to amount to a question of veracity; but it seems strange to me that the hospital had been surrendered by the violent waving of a white flag, as Colonel Floyd states, a half hour before we arrived, and then our men were falling right and left from a fire coming from and about the hospital, and that we should drive a heavy column of the enemy through and from the field and yard, which he had passed half an hour before, and yet we were half an hour behind, according to Colonel Floyd's report. I would further add, that line repulsed from behind the fence, south of the hospital, which was in a position to enfilade General Johnson's brigade, was certainly much nearer the hospital than Colonel Floyd, as Colonel Keeble was on his left, and between the **Seventeenth Tennessee** and **Second Arkansas Regiments**. Colonel Keeble states that we were going to his left, which would certainly throw Colonel Floyd considerably to our right; also shows that we repulsed the enfilading line; at the same time proves that we preceded him to the hospital, or that he ran over and left a heavy column of the enemy at the fence, all of whom were mad men, well armed and unhurt, or that he passed considerably to the right of the hospital and left this line in his rear—which he did not do, for in his report he states he ordered the "forward" when his enfilading line gave way, and I know, and a just God at his bar will prove to Colonel Floyd and his officers that we were not half an hour or fifteen minutes getting to that hospital from the time we entered the skirt of wood. I further add, that after we halted some time at the hospital, behind the fence running west from the hospital, General Liddell ordered his men out of the yard, where the Federals were about 250 in number, into line, looking for a charge of the enemy's cavalry from our left, and, on entering the yard a short time after halting, three Confederate prisoners, who said they were captured the day previous, reported to me.

I hope no honor due the **Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment** will ever be seized by the **Second Arkansas Regiment**. We have confidently looked upon them as worthy and brave fellow-soldiers (which they deserve to be called) in the day of battle, and if they captured the Federal hospital referred to, or passed it half an hour before we did, that everything that is glorious be inscribed upon their banner, for they are insensible of danger and fearless of numbers, and noted for speed as well as cool courage, to have advanced their colors and general guides,

formed a correct line, and obtained a supply of ammunition from the enemy's own wagons between the lines of his proud legions, and no support nearer than twenty minutes' run; but Colonel Floyd would do well to obtain more proof before asserting that no Confederate troops had reached the hospital before his regiment, for there was a sufficient force there when we approached it to have annihilated any three companies; but if he did capture the hospital, may the future establish the fact or prove otherwise, and satisfy him, as well as the just tribunal into whose hands this may fall, that I am his friend and fellow-soldier.

R. F. HARVEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Comd'g. Second Arkansas Regiment.

General LIDDELL.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS LIDDELL'S BRIGADE,
March 25, 1863.

Respectfully forwarded.

It is possible that there is a mistake as to the identity of the Yankee hospital. The one taken by the **Second Arkansas Regiment** was called the **Griscom house**. If, however, the **Jenkins hospital** and the **Griscom house** are one and the same, and **General Johnson** claims its capture by the **Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment**, then I do not understand why the enemy was left still in possession of it, with a long line of battle stretching westward, with which my brigade had to contend, and finally drive away with musketry and cannon shot. In this affair I certainly must attach some credit to the evidences of my own senses, that, too, corroborated by my field and regimental officers; but if these prove unavailing, I have nothing more to say. I see that **General Johnson** refers the subject to the **Secretary of War** in his indorsement on **Lieutenant-Colonel Floyd's report**. I shall be satisfied to let our claim rest with the division commander, who, it is presumed, is familiar with all the facts and persons interested, and if it should be in the way of **General Johnson's** glory, I am willing to let it go without further contention, however well assured I am, nevertheless, of what is due my brigade.

ST. JOHN R. LIDDELL,
Brigadier-General.

No. 259.

Report of Lieut. Col. John E. Murray, Fifth Arkansas Infantry.

ESTILL SPRINGS, TENN.,
January 7, 1863.

STR: I have the honor to report that on the morning of December 31, 1862, after having bivouacked the previous night on the right bank of **Stone's River** about 2 miles from the town of **Whitesborough, Tenn.**, my command, with the other regiments of **Liddell's brigade**, was moved forward, gradually changing direction to the right as we moved forward. At about the hour of 7.30 a. m. we came in sight of the enemy, strongly posted with artillery and infantry in the edge of a piece of woods about 200 yards in our front, who immediately opened a well-directed and most deadly fire upon our advancing line. My command halted and immediately commenced returning the fire, and for about twenty minutes the command remained in an open field, exposed to a most deadly fire of artillery and infantry. At the end of this time the

if proper to submit a more minute statement of facts touching the matter at issue than was contained in my report of that battle.

When I ceased firing at my second position, which was about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles in rear of the hospital, the brigade charged and captured the battery referred to in my report, and continued to advance rapidly in the direction of the hospital. I moved the battery promptly to the front and left about 1,200 yards, and took position to prevent the enemy's cavalry from getting in rear of the brigade. I was detained here some fifteen minutes, but did not fire on the cavalry, as I had some doubt as to their being Federal; at the same time I replenished my ammunition chests. The cavalry disappeared, and I moved to the right and front through the open field, and thence forward through a narrow strip of woods into a cotton field in rear of the hospital. I found the brigade posted behind a fence, the right resting at the hospital. General Liddell in person indicated the position for the battery, which was posted 50 or 60 yards in rear of the brigade, and about 60 or 70 yards to the rear and left of the hospital, on the left, and within 20 yards of the lane running from the Wilkinson pike to the rear of the hospital. From this position I fired 18 or 20 rounds to the piece, driving the enemy from his position behind the fence running parallel to the Wilkinson pike, when the brigade moved rapidly forward in pursuit into the woods across the pike.

I remained in this position at least twenty minutes after the brigade had advanced, when General Liddell, returning from the front in search of his ordnance train, directed me to seek a position to the right. I moved across the lane to the right of the hospital, and, when opposite thereto, halted to receive ammunition from two of my limbers, which had just come up. At this moment General B. R. Johnson rode up to me. I saw a regiment of his brigade at a halt, the left resting at a horse lot, about 80 or 100 yards to the right and front of the hospital, with the right of the regiment somewhat to the rear, or, rather, at almost a right-wheel from our proper front. Finding a confused state of affairs to my right, I moved forward through the regiment and to the left and front to the Wilkinson pike, in order to rejoin the brigade, which was in the advance. I saw a number of dead and wounded Federals in the cotton field and lane, and near the line house and hospital; also a large number of prisoners in the hospital yard.

Sergt. John McMullen states that it was here he was severely wounded in the chest by a minie ball, and not at the position last occupied by the battery, as stated in my report. I also lost 4 horses killed and disabled. All of which is most respectfully submitted.

H. SHANNON,
Lieutenant, Commanding Sacett's Battery.
Capt. G. A. WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No. 264.

Report of Brig. Gen. Bushrod R. Johnson, C. S. Army, commanding Third Brigade.

HDQRS. JOHNSON'S BRIG., [THIRD,] CLEBURNE'S DIV.,
HARDEE'S CORPS, ARMY OF TENNESSEE,
Tulahoma, Tenn., January 15, 1863.

SIR: I respectfully submit the following report of the part taken in the action before Murfreesborough on December 31, 1862, by the brigade under my command

In the first position taken by Major-General Cleburne's division at

Murfreesborough, on Sunday, December 28, this brigade was the second one from the extreme right of the second line; was north of Murfreesborough and a little west of the Lebanon pike. Though there had been skirmishing with artillery and small-arms, no regular engagement had taken place between our troops and those of the enemy up to the night of December 30.

Late in the evening of this day my brigade, with the others of Major-General Cleburne's division, was moved from the extreme right to the extreme left of the second line of battle, in order to support Major-General McGowan's division, which formed the extreme left of the first line. My brigade consisted of five regiments, whose position from right to left, and whose strength, respectively, on the morning of the battle in front of Murfreesborough, were as follows:

General and staff.....	6
37th Tennessee, Col. Moses White.....	225
44th Tennessee, Col. John [S.] Fulton.....	509
25th Tennessee, Col. John M. Hughes.....	336
17th Tennessee, Col. A. S. Marks.....	538
23d Tennessee, Lieut. Col. R. H. Keeble.....	272
Darden's battery.....	70

Strength of brigade taken into action..... 2,016

The Jefferson Artillery (four guns), commanded by Capt Putnam Darden, having been on detached service with Brigadier-General [S. A. M.] Wood's brigade, reported for duty with my command on the morning of December 31 and moved with my brigade. My brigade was posted between Brigadier-General Liddell's brigade (which was on the extreme left of our line) and the brigade of Brig. Gen. L. [E.] Polk.

At early dawn, on the last day of the old year, 1862, a year so full of bloody records, our line was formed, running north and south on the west side of the West Fork of Stone's River, my left resting on the lane leading up to the McCulloch house. The order was immediately given to advance in support of Major-General McGowan's division, by wheeling the whole of our division to the right.

My brigade moved first over open fields up a gentle ascent for about 1,200 yards, when we reached the summit of the slope, with my left within about 150 yards of the Trinne road. Here the enemy's balls from cannon and small-arms fell around and in our ranks. Though we had moved out on the second line to support Major-General McGowan's division, it became evident that there was here nothing before us but the enemy, whose sharpshooters were posted at the fence and in the woods along the north side of the Trinne road. We therefore prepared to take our place in the first line. I ordered out skirmishers in front of each regiment, halting and correcting the right of my line, which had been somewhat broken in passing through a small thicket in the field. Col. Moses White and Lieutenant-Colonel [R. D.] Fryaser, of the Thirty-seventh, and several men of the Forty-fourth Tennessee Regiment, were here wounded before we had fired a gun. Major [J. T.] McReynolds, a faithful and brave officer, then took command of the Thirty-seventh Regiment Tennessee Volunteers.

Our skirmishers now drove the enemy from the fence and border of the woods, and the brigade advanced to the Trinne road in a beautiful line, completing the wheel to the right. My command was here moved to the left on the road, to give room to Brigadier-General Polk's brigade.

In front of the left wing of the Twenty-fifth Regiment Tennessee Volunteers there was, at this time, a lane running nearly perpendicular to

the Triune road; and with a narrow opening on the right of this lane there was on either side a cedar glade. The brigade advanced into the glade, and, passing it under a warm fire on the right wing, it entered a wide corn field on the left and a narrow field on the right of the lane. The conflict now became very severe—perhaps as much so as at any period during the day.

Immediately in front of the **Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment**, and to the right of a small thicket, was a battery of four guns—afterward found to be a Michigan battery—supported by a heavy force of infantry. Farther to the left was posted a second battery. As soon as the brigade entered upon the open ground it was exposed to a very heavy fire of grape, shells, and bullets. The **Twenty-fifth Regiment**, on the right of the lane, was especially exposed to a flank fire of the enemy's battery. The **Seventeenth** advanced steadily to within 150 yards of the battery, halted, and engaged the enemy most gallantly and efficiently for some time. Captain Darden's battery at the same time took position on the south side of the field, and with admirable skill poured in a well-directed fire of shell, shrapnel, and solid shot over the heads of our men upon the battery and infantry in front of my left wing, which soon silenced the enemy's pieces. The **Seventeenth** then charged and took the battery of four guns in front of it, having, with the aid of the artillery, killed eight men of the battery and many horses, and having wounded the captain and a number of his men and damaged one of his pieces.

As our men advanced, Captain Darden moved his battery to the left and engaged the enemy's battery on the left of the small thicket, which finally moved back from its position. After continuing the fire for a time from the open fields upon the enemy now in the woods beyond, the **Seventeenth** again charged and gained the woods, where a stubborn resistance continued to be offered by the enemy, who took shelter behind trees and logs. Still the **Seventeenth** pushed rapidly forward, driving the enemy until its left was exposed to an enflanking fire from the enemy, who occupied a fence some 60 yards to the left. The **Twenty-third Tennessee Regiment**, in conjunction with the right of Brigadier-General Liddell's brigade, now approached in good time, and gallantly relieved the **Seventeenth** from this flank fire, enabling it to pass forward and drive the enemy from the woods.

On the right of the lane, where the **Twenty-fifth**, **Forty-fourth**, and **Thirty-seventh Tennessee Regiments** passed, there was much less open ground than on the left. When the enemy gave way in the field on the left of the lane, they fell rapidly back to the woods, and were soon driven from this cover; but on the right of the lane my right wing had to advance much more slowly against artillery and infantry, and gradually drive the enemy step by step, without the aid of artillery, through woods almost equal in extent to the woods and open ground on the left. The consequence was, that the **Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment** gained the open field beyond the woods and advanced to the woods beyond the Federal hospital before my right had got through the woods in which this protracted struggle took place. This struggle on the right was maintained by our troops with the same gallantry and persistency as by those on the left, though that struggle presented not the same variety of phases in the former as in the latter. A battery of the enemy's artillery was posted in the corn-field in advance of the woods on the right of the lane. This battery was removed before our troops passed out of the woods.

The first serious conflict in which my brigade was engaged in this

battle may be considered as closing here. More than half of the whole loss of this brigade, in my opinion, occurred in this conflict. Without attempting to enumerate the loss in men, it is known that in killed and wounded the **Forty-fourth** lost here its major, 8 officers, and its color-bearer; the **Seventeenth** lost its colonel, adjutant, and 12 company officers; the **Twenty-fifth** lost its colonel and 6 company officers; the **Twenty-third** lost 2 officers; the **Thirty-seventh** lost its colonel and lieutenant-colonel. One of my staff was also wounded by a shell. The command of the **Seventeenth** devolved on Lieut. Col. W. W. Floyd, and that of the **Twenty-fifth** on Lieut. Col. Samuel Davis, after the colonels of these regiments were wounded, which was early in this fight. Colonel [A. S.] Marks, of the **Seventeenth Regiment**, advanced within sight of the battery, afterward taken by his regiment, and exclaimed, "Boys! do you see that battery? It is ours, is it not?" It was, however, taken after he was wounded.

After clearing the woods, the **Seventeenth Regiment** was fired on by the enemy stationed in and about the cotton-gin, about 70 yards in front of a large Federal hospital. One piece of artillery was observed just on the left of the hospital and a battery of four guns about 300 yards to its right. This battery was playing on the woods occupied by the right of the brigade, and an undulation in the ground served to conceal from it the movements of the **Seventeenth Regiment**, while that regiment passed some 50 yards to its rear and about 150 yards from its right. The fire of the enemy in and about the cotton-gin was returned by the **Seventeenth Regiment**, killing and wounding several of the enemy, and the conflict was kept up on both sides until the regiment had passed the hospital, seven companies passing to the right of the hospital and three to the left. The enemy was now observed forming at a distance of several hundred yards in front. The battery on the right moved off about this time, leaving behind one piece of artillery. When our troops approached the hospital, a second flag was raised, and a man came out with another, a white flag, which he waved with much energy. A large number of prisoners had been passed in the woods, with whom our men were prohibited from leaving the field, and a number were captured with the hospital. The **Seventeenth** also captured here two wagons, well loaded with ammunition for small arms, and the cannon on the left of the hospital. It will be observed that the lane which separated my right from my left wing, and along each side of which my men moved, passed immediately by this Federal hospital. The line of march to this hospital for my brigade was shorter than that for any brigade or regiment on my left. The **Fifth Confederate Regiment**, commanded by Col. J. A. Smith, of Brig. Gen. L. [E.] Polk's brigade, was the first command to reach the hospital after the **Seventeenth Regiment Tennessee Volunteers**. The officers of the **Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment** are very confident that this regiment was the first to reach and pass the hospital. Lieutenant-Colonel Floyd remarks that "At the time I ordered the charge into the woods in front of the hospital, I was at least 70 yards in advance of any other troops on my left; that we passed through the woods very rapidly, and certainly had less space to pass over in getting there than any troops on our left." There may be but little importance attached to the taking of this hospital, and but little honor won in reaching this position first, but as it has been made a subject of some conflict in opinion between honorable men, honestly differing in their opinion, it is but proper that the facts in the case should be determined. The only interest which the undersigned can have in the matter arises from an honest wish to have justice done to those who have a right to expect it at his hands, while

he trusts and believes they would scorn to appropriate ought that was not their due.*

Of Lieutenant-Colonel [W. W.] Floyd it is just to say that on this field of battle he has shown himself to be a good, faithful, energetic, and gallant officer. His cool judgment and courage, and the steadiness with which he stood to his post in every position of his command, have not, perhaps, been excelled by any officer on the field at Murfreesborough.

In the woods behind the hospital I reformed the brigade in line of battle, and obtained a new supply of cartridges, the Seventeenth having supplied itself mainly from the wagons it captured. Captain Darden's battery also came up here and took position on the left of the brigade.

About this time, finding Brigadier-General Wood falling back from an advanced position on our right, I learned from him upon inquiry that the enemy had a heavy battery in his front, which was doing much damage. Under instructions from Major-General Cleburne, I sent forward a company of sharpshooters, under command of Captain [F. B.] Terry, of the **Seventeenth**, with instructions to take off the men and horses of the battery. At the same time Captain Darden's battery, by direction of Major Hotchkiss, moved to the right of my brigade and into the woods in advance of Brigadier-General Wood's brigade, and opened fire on the advancing enemy, driving them back. Captain Darden reports that he then moved his battery to the right into a field, in which there was a hospital, about 300 yards from the Wilkinson pike, and, in conjunction with two guns of, he thinks, Captain [J. T.] Humphreys' battery, engaged a battery of the enemy, and, after a hotly contested fight, silenced four of his guns.

In the mean time Captain Terry advanced, with his company deployed as skirmishers, and, passing to the left of the Wilkinson pike, approached the garden fence of the hospital to our right and front on the north side of the Wilkinson pike, driving from that fence the enemy's skirmishers, who took position in the edge of a cedar thicket, to which a heavy force of the enemy's infantry now advanced, when Captain Terry withdrew his men and joined his regiment, now in motion.

In the mean time I was ordered by Major-General Cleburne to move my brigade by the left flank across a corn-field on the north side of the Wilkinson pike. On passing all but the right regiment of my brigade into the woods beyond the corn-field, I was directed to move to the front in support of Brigadier-General Polk's brigade. We descended the slope of a hill and entered the cedars, on a rocky acclivity some 200 yards to the left of the position to which Captain Terry had driven the enemy's skirmishers. My men here opened fire, when I directed them to desist, believing that our friends were in front of our line. Riding now in advance of the right of our line, the enemy's fire was unexpectedly drawn. After a few rounds it was found that a heavy force was flanking our right, where we were unsupported. I consequently moved my command to the rear in good order. The Forty-fourth Tennessee Regiment reports 21 prisoners captured here. Major McReynolds, the last field officer on duty with the Thirty-seventh, was here mortally wounded, and Captain Jarraign assumed command of the regiment. In our rear there was drawn

* NOTE ON ORIGINAL.—In regard to the Federal hospital in controversy, it is hoped it may be found that while this brigade captured the one known as the Jenkins house, the other brigade captured that known as the Widow Smith's house.

The following officers are known to be prisoners in Nashville: Maj. J. C. Davis, Captain [William] Clarke, Captain [G. W.] O'Neal, Second Lieutenant [M. W.] Black, First Lieutenant [H. M.] Kinsey, Lieutenant [M. P.] Marbury (not known), Seventh Regiment Tennessee Volunteers.

up a line of several regiments, some of which, at least, belonged to some other corps.

An order now came to me from General Cleburne to move my brigade to support General Liddell. After marching some 400 yards by the left flank, we moved to our front and passed north through a long wood lot projecting into open fields. Having received a message from General Liddell, through Colonel Kelly, who was wounded, to the effect that the aid of my brigade would rout the enemy, we came up with General Liddell's brigade on an ascent beyond the edge of the woods. General Liddell's command now yielded the ground to my men, and reformed under the brow of a small hill, to the top of which my command ascended.

Before us was now an open field, declining in front. At the foot of the declivity, at the distance of about 400 yards, was a battery, strongly supported by infantry. My command steadily advanced, fighting under fire from the battery and infantry. The battery was soon silenced, and our men advanced in double-quick time to a position behind a fence and a ledge of rocks. In front, about 80 yards, was a cedar glade, in the edge of which the enemy were now seen lying close together along a ledge of rocks. Under cover of the fence and rocks our men took deliberate aim and poured upon the enemy a destructive fire, which was returned with spirit. The conflict lasted some twenty minutes, when the enemy arose to retire. At this moment a volley was discharged upon them with remarkable effect, and our men rapidly advanced to the cedars, capturing the fine battery of Parrott guns against which they had been fighting, and which was now in position on the adjacent flanks of the Twenty-third and **Seventeenth Tennessee** Regiments. The men of my brigade then took shelter behind the ledge of rocks at the edge of the glade, and were well covered from the enemy's fire. All occur in representing the number of dead and wounded in the edge of the cedars as very large. Many were lying side by side along the ledge in the position they assumed to await our approach, while others had fallen as they turned to retreat.

The fire was still being kept up on the part of our troops, when it was observed that the troops on our right, bearing colors with blue ground and red cross, were falling back, and it was reported that our right was flanked by a heavy force. A precipitate retreat immediately followed. My brigade having a strong position, held to it with tenacity, and abandoned it with reluctance, after a delay that led to considerable loss. Here Captain [N. R.] Allen, of the Twenty-third, who was distinguished for his valor and coolness, fell, mortally wounded. Captain [F. M.] Orr, of the Seventeenth, was killed in the advance. The Forty-fourth lost 2 officers; the Twenty-fifth, 2 lieutenants, the color-bearer and colors. Maj. J. C. Davis, of the **Seventeenth**, with other officers and men, were here captured.

The retreat was made without order. The lines were broken and men of different regiments, brigades, and divisions were scattered all over the fields. The movement was to me totally unexpected, and I have yet to learn that there existed a cause commensurate with the demoralization that ensued. At the moment in which I felt the utmost confidence in the success of our arms I was almost run over by our retreating troops. I contended with the tide step by step, but made no impression on the retreating columns until they had gained the woods, when, by calling on a number of color-bearers, I succeeded in planting the colors of several regiments, and the men then assembled upon them with ranks much thinned. I cannot but think that the whole ultimate fortunes of the field were lost by this backward movement. Our men were in sight of

the Nashville pike; some have said they were on it. The enemy's right was doubled back upon their center. Had we held this position the line of communication of the enemy would have been cut. We could have flanked them and enfiladed their whole line, which was no doubt in disorder. It was unfortunate that our artillery was not promptly moved forward to support us. My battery was at this time in position, by order of General Hardee. I do not think that our artillery was sufficiently used on our left. General Liddell's battery arrived on the ground, and he proceeded to put it in position for the work to be done, but did not succeed in time to open before the retreat commenced. Had we received reinforcements we might have returned and regained the ground. But very soon the enemy planted a formidable battery on an eminence near the railroad, sweeping all the open fields and commanding even the woods in which our lines were formed. The enemy's infantry was also brought forward and posted in great strength, so as to be protected by the side slopes of the railroad and pike, and the trees and rocks in the cedar glade. It would then have been very hazardous to assalt them with any force by our former approach. These facts I promptly communicated to Major [Calhoun] Benham, of General Cleburne's staff. We now threw forward our skirmishers to the fields, and prepared to hold our position. Allowing for the ground we had lost, we had driven the enemy back 2 miles, and now held our position from 3 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon until 10 o'clock on Friday night. Between the two armies and beyond the available reach of either, the ground was strewn with the dead and wounded, and with their arms and accoutrements. During Wednesday night the enemy's army seemed to be busy with rapid movements of troops, wagons, and artillery. The very commands of the officers could be distinguished, and the rumbling of wagons seemed to commence on their left and die away in the distance beyond their right. Toward the dawn of day I felt confident that we could distinguish the peculiar noise of artillery moving away, and, concluding that the enemy were in full retreat, I stated this impression in a note to General Cleburne, with the suggestion that our forces should be pressed forward.

The ground in front of our pickets was mainly occupied by the enemy's wounded and dead, and the groans of the former were appealing for relief throughout the night. Early in the morning I took with me a number of men of the infantry corps of my brigade, and went out on the field to carry off the wounded. A fire had been built for a number of them by our pickets, but others had passed the night in the cold. We had moved but few of them, when the enemy's pickets fired on us, and one of their balls struck a wounded Federal borne on the shoulders of our men. Again, later in the day, when one of our men, yielding to natural sympathy excited by the continued cries of suffering humanity, crawled to a wounded Federal, and was endeavoring to place him in a comfortable position, the enemy's pickets shot the good Samaritan, wounding him in the arm.

During the night of December 31, and day and night of January 1, and until 10 p. m. of the 2d, we remained inactive in our position in the woods, occasionally shelled by the enemy's batteries, and aroused by the firing of our skirmishers in front. I suggested and urged the planting of a heavy battery to my left and front, but my suggestions seemed not to be approved either by artillery officers or my seniors. My own convictions still approve this suggestion, convinced, as I am, that on the field of battle there should be no repose, and that energetic, judicious, persistent action affords the only reliable means of success. Had this battery been planted it would have proved a very great diversion in favor

of our attacking force on the evening of Friday, January 2, as a concentrated fire could have been thrown upon the enemy's battery at, perhaps, a shorter distance than from any other battery in our lines, and we would then have had a cross-fire upon the enemy's strongest position.

On Friday evening I sent out, by request of Major-General Cleburne, a party of men to bring in the guns lying near our skirmishers in front, and succeeded in bringing in a number, which were carried from the field by the ordnance officer of the brigade, Lieut. J. B. Lake. My men also armed themselves very generally with long-range guns, by exchange.

At 10 p. m. on Friday, January 2, we were withdrawn from the left wing of our army, and placed in support of Major-General Breckinridge's division, on the extreme right. Here we remained in a heavy rain until 11 p. m. on Saturday, January 3, when our retreat commenced, and continued through the very inclement weather of the night. After dark on the evening of the 4th we halted, and rested until 8 a. m. on January 5, within 6½ miles of Manchester, a number of my men having fallen behind from weariness and other causes.

In the progress of this report the conduct of men and officers of the brigade has been indicated with some particularity. I regret to state that, especially after our first serious conflict, a number of men fell behind the command.

Lieutenant-Colonel [R. H.] Keoble, of the Twenty-third Regiment Tennessee Volunteers, is especially worthy of notice for his steady courage and the manner in which he handled his men, and, with the aid of good company officers, kept them together through all the movements of the day of battle.

Col. John S. Fulton and Lieut. Col. John L. McEwen, jr., of the Forty-fourth, bore themselves gallantly, pressing forward, and encouraging their men in all the dangers of the field.

Out of fifteen field officers, twelve were present on the field of battle, and but one of them escaped untouched in person or clothes. The Forty-fourth [Regiment] took into action 28 officers and lost 19 killed, wounded, and missing; the seventeenth [Regiment] took into action 41 officers, and lost 21 killed, wounded, and missing; the Twenty-fifth [Regiment] took into action 37 officers, and lost 12 killed, wounded, and missing; the Twenty-third [Regiment] took into action 23 officers, and lost 4 killed, wounded, and missing; the Thirty-seventh took into action 25 officers, and lost 6 killed, wounded, and missing; general and staff took into action 6 officers, and lost 2 killed, wounded, and missing.

The following are the casualties which occurred, as determined by comparison of surgeons' and regimental reports:

Command.	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Total.
17th Tennessee	4	176	24	204
23d Tennessee	11	48	11	68
25th Tennessee	13	91	14	118
37th Tennessee	6	39	1	46
44th Tennessee	14	134	26	174
Jackson Artillery	2	1	1	4
General and staff	2	1	1	4
Total	55	492	76	623

I cannot close my report without special notice of Capt. Put. Darden and the battery under his command. The ability and zeal of the officers

and men as exhibited in the management of the battery, and in the efficiency and precision of its fire on this field of battle, ranks it, in my opinion, among the best batteries with the Army of Tennessee.

My staff served faithfully and creditably in this action. Capt. R. B. Snowden, assistant adjutant-general, was twice struck, and had his horse disabled, and remained actively employed on the field with the command. Capt. William T. Blakemore, aide-de-camp, was with me everywhere on the field, and rendered me all the assistance in his power. Capt. John Overton, volunteer aide, was wounded, and Capt. Jo. H. Vanleece, also a volunteer aide, after having his horse disabled, fought in ranks, with a rifle. Lieut. George H. Smith, of the regular army, and my brigade inspector, was wounded before he reported to me on the field.

A rough map, exhibiting the movements of my brigade and battery in the battle before Murfreesborough, is herewith inclosed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. R. JOHNSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Capt. IRVING A. BUCK,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 265.

Report of Lieut. James B. Lake, ———, Chief Ordnance Officer.

EDGERS. ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT, JOHNSON'S BRIGADE,
Pullahona, Tenn., January 23, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor of reporting that, while on the battle-field near Murfreesborough, Tenn., December 31, 1862, I collected and turned over to ordnance department about one hundred and sixty guns, consisting in Enfield rifles, minie and percussion muskets. I also took from the field one four-horse wagon complete, with fifteen boxes Enfield cartridges, which wagon I now have in my train.

Very respectfully,
JAS. B. LAKE,
First Lieut. and Chief of Ordnance, General Johnson's Brigade.

Capt. R. B. SNOWDEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 266.

Reports of Lieut. Col. Watt W. Floyd, Seventeenth Tennessee Infantry.

PULLAHONA, TENN., January 9, 1863.

GENERAL: In obedience to Special Orders, No. —, I submit a brief report of the part the Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment took in the battle of Murfreesborough, Tenn., on December 31, 1862.

The regiment was led into the action by the gallant Colonel Marks. When you had put the brigade in position to move against the enemy's lines, the Seventeenth occupied a position in a bottom, where a battery had been captured a few minutes before by General McOWEN's command. Upon being ordered forward, the regiment advanced up a gentle slope

to a fence on the crest of the hill. Here our skirmishers were first fired upon, and we discovered a heavy force supporting a battery in a corn-field immediately in front of our lines. The regiment moved up in fine style to within 150 yards of the battery, under a galling fire from the artillery and infantry. We halted and engaged them for some length of time to great effect. Colonel Marks was wounded here at the first fire, and the command then devolved upon me. The enemy's line finally gave way, and the order was given to charge. Never did soldiers obey an order with more alacrity. We captured the battery (four pieces), and drove the enemy back to the edge of a thick woodland. After passing the battery, we halted and engaged the enemy a second time, soon starting him back again. I ordered a second charge, which was well executed under a heavy fire. On gaining the fence from which we had just driven the enemy, I reformed the regiment. Here the enemy made a very stubborn stand, taking shelter behind the trees and logs; here my left suffered severely from an enfilading fire. The enemy's line had not given way on my left. He occupied the opposite side of the fence from me, not exceeding 60 yards from me. Colonel Keeble, with his noble little band, came soon to our relief, with General Liddell on his left. I discovered that the right wing of the brigade was still held in check some distance in our rear by the enemy, strongly posted in a wood in front of it; but my men were so anxious to go forward that I ordered them to clear the wood in front. So soon as I saw the enemy's line break to my left, we kept up a running and a very destructive fire through the wood, which was, perhaps, some 300 yards.

On emerging from the woods, I discovered a Federal hospital immediately in front, and one piece of artillery just at the left of it, which was silent, and a battery of four pieces about 300 yards to the right. The regiment at this point made a half-wheel to the right, seven companies passing to the right and three companies to the left of the hospital. The battery that was on my right was playing on the right of the brigade, and seemed not to discover us. On passing the hospital and clearing the fences, I discovered the enemy in force forming about 300 yards in front of me. I ordered a halt and reformed the regiment, having passed some 50 yards to the rear of the battery that was on my right, and not more than 150 yards distant, but a slight elevation of ground concealed it from me. It silenced, though, about this time, and moved off to my right, leaving behind one piece. There we captured 2 wagons, well loaded with ammunition for small-arms, and 8 mules. At the hospital we captured a large number of prisoners, besides quite a number in the woods, alluded to heretofore; I think in all not less than 200 unhurt (my officers think more), besides killing and wounding a great number. Many of the wounded had already been collected at the hospital for treatment.

My regiment was fired upon after clearing the woods by a party of Federals posted in a cotton-gin about 70 yards in front of the hospital, and my men returned the fire, killing several of them. The enemy continued to fire upon our line, particularly the left wing, until we had passed the hospital. I feel very certain that my regiment was first at this hospital. At the time I ordered the charge into the woods in front of it, I was at least 75 yards in advance of any troops on my left. We passed through the woods very rapidly, and we certainly had less spruce to pass over in getting there than any regiment on our left. After passing the hospital and reforming the regiment, we occupied a position nearly out of sight of it. I found upon examination at this point that our stock of ammunition was nearly exhausted. We replenished from

the captured wagons by using all that would fit our guns. We remained here full half an hour before any support came up, Colonel Keeble coming first of your brigade. After you reformed the brigade at this point to make a second advance in line, my regiment had but little to do with the enemy until after 12 o'clock, except Captain [F. B.] Terry's company, which was thrown forward as skirmishers near the Federal hospital, north of the Franklin pike. Here Captain Terry drove back the enemy's sharpshooters, killing several and having several of his own men wounded.

The next thing worthy of note was when you brought up your brigade to support General Liddell. In that action my regiment came up with, I think, the Second Arkansas Regiment in a wood lot. That regiment was driving the enemy slowly, but surely, before it. On reaching the fence on the north side of the lot, this regiment faced about and retired through my lines. I immediately gave the command forward, and nobly and gallantly did the boys clear the fence. This brought us into an open field in plain view of a fine battery of the enemy's guns, down at the foot of the hill (we occupied the top), distant about 500 yards. This battery was supported by a heavy line of infantry. The retreating force that Liddell had been driving made one stand against us before reaching the bottom of the hill and did us serious damage. I halted the regiment about half way down the hill, and gave the enemy a few rounds. Meanwhile his battery was playing heavily upon us, but the well-directed fire of our boys soon drove the gunners from their pieces and stopped the trouble from that quarter. Scarcely had I given the command "forward" before I perceived the boys going at a double-quick for the bottom of the hill.

In this charge I lost Captain Orr, killed, and several others wounded. On reaching the foot of the hill, I halted the regiment, discovering a fine position behind a fence in some sinks or basins, bordered by rocks, &c. The men promptly took advantage of these things, and commenced pouring a deadly fire into their ranks as they were lying in the edge of a cedar glade. The distance between our lines ranged from 75 to 100 yards, or less. Here my boys commenced the work of destruction in good earnest. Never have I seen such cool, deliberate aim taken in battle. The enemy stood the fire well, and returned it briskly, but with little effect. The engagement at this point lasted some thirty minutes, when the enemy arose to retreat, but a deadly volley from our boys prevented most of them from escaping. Another "forward," and the boys soon occupied the ground the Yankees had just left.

In this charge we gained full possession of the fine battery that had annoyed us so but a short time before. My men took a position behind a ledge of rocks that bordered the cedar glade, which afforded a fine shelter from the enemy's bullets. Along the edge of the cedar glade was the greatest destruction of Yankees I have seen on any battle-field. I do not claim for my regiment full credit for taking the battery captured at this point. Colonel Keeble did some effective work here, although the battery was opposite the left wing of my battalion. The position I occupied at this point I considered a very safe one, believing that we could hold it against any reasonable force with but little cost; but after remaining there for some time, I was notified that the right wing was rapidly giving way. (On looking in that direction, I saw the brigade on the right of yours had fallen back considerably, and that the right wing of your brigade was falling back also. I turned to the left, and found it giving back, too. I immediately ordered my command to fall back to the fence, which they did in good order; many of them taking the position again from which they had done such noble work a

little while before, and commenced firing. But no one seemed disposed to stop and support me, and I ordered my men to fall back as rapidly as possible. But by this time the enemy had got so near that I knew my men would suffer severely, having to fall back through an open field for some 500 yards before getting out of danger, and that up hill. The men were nearly exhausted from six or seven hours' hard fighting and maneuvering.

I herewith submit a list* of casualties; the list of missing; I am sure, not large enough by one-half to cover the real loss.

Too much praise cannot be awarded the officers and men who fought under my command on that memorable day. The officers all did their duty nobly; the men gallantly, bravely, effectively.

I cannot close this already too tedious report without making special mention of our color-bearer, W. T. Jones, who was lost on the last field. He carried the colors well to the front through every engagement and every charge. A braver, better soldier never went forth to battle, or offered up his life a sacrifice to the cause of justice than W. T. Jones. Respectfully submitted.

WATT W. FLOYD,

Lieutenant Colonel, Comdg. Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment.

Brig. Gen. B. R. JOHNSON.

TULLahoma, TENN., March 18, 1863.

GENERAL: I submit some additional facts in regard to the hospital that I claimed in my report of the battle of Murfreesborough as having been captured by the Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment.

If any Confederate troops reached that hospital before the Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment, I cannot understand when or how they got in advance of us. When we started into the last skirt of woods, which lies south, or, rather, west of south, from the hospital, the enemy on our left were nearly on the same line with my regiment and enfiladed our line. General Liddell was some distance to the left and rear of my regiment. Colonel Keeble, whose regiment was on the left of our brigade, says that about this time General Liddell's brigade had separated from him some distance, and seemed to be moving still farther to the left. I ordered the "forward" here as soon as the enemy gave way on my left, as stated in my report. I know that my regiment at this point was in advance of any other portion of our line that was in sight of me. Every officer in my regiment who went through the fight will corroborate this, as well as any other statement I shall make.

On entering the woods above mentioned, my line was perpendicular to the lane which passes to the left and near by the hospital. Had my regiment continued to march straight forward it would have passed to the left of the hospital, but just before leaving the woods the regiment made a half-wheel to the right. Now, I am perfectly satisfied that it was impossible for General Liddell's brigade (or any part of it) to start on my left and rear, as it did, separated from me, as it was, by more than the length of Colonel Keeble's regiment, and enter the woods west of south from the hospital, make the circuit on the large exterior curve, which it must have done in the face of the enemy, and yet reach the hospital by this lengthened route before the Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment did, moving, as it did, on the interior curve rapidly and without halting. After passing from the woods west of south from the hospital, the Seventeenth Regiment was fired on by the Yankees from both sides

* Embodied in No. 191, p. 650.

of the old gin-house and the hospital, and this regiment continued to return a brisk fire until a white flag was violently waved by a Yankee advancing from the hospital. The firing pretty well ceased in the regiment after this white flag was exhibited, and two companies (Captains [T. H.] Watterson's and [G. W.] McDonald's) passed through the yard of the hospital and on both sides of it, and Captain [U. C.] Harrison's company passed entirely on the left of the yard. When the regiment reached the hospital, a brisk fire was again opened upon some Yankees who were running toward the Wilkinson pike, but particularly on some Yankees who were trying to get off some ammunition wagons which the Seventeenth Regiment captured, and from which the men of that regiment filled their boxes. Captains Watterson's and McDonald's companies fired from the yard fence in rear of the hospital upon the Yankees retreating toward the pike. After we had entered the woods beyond the hospital, we halted and the regiment was reformed. After we had been reformed about twenty minutes, a Federal officer came galloping up from our left, apparently thinking we were Yankees, and we captured him and his horse. The capture was made by Lieutenant [M. W.] Black, of Company E, Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment. The enemy were now in full view near the Wilkinson pike.

Now, it is proposed to deny, in the face of the men and officers of the Seventeenth [Regiment] who were engaged, that any such a conflict as described occurred at the point indicated. It is claimed that the Second Arkansas Regiment was the first to reach this hospital, and that there was no fighting about the hospital afterward. Private Elder, of the Second Arkansas Regiment Infantry, left to guard the hospital by General Liddell, states that, with Private Faidley, he took possession of the hospital, which he understood was the residence of a Mr. Grison, and that he did not see General Johnson's brigade until some time after he had been stationed there, when General Liddell's brigade had passed to the front, and that there was no fighting at or about the hospital at that time. Private Faidley, of Company D, Second Arkansas Regiment, says he saw the Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment, General Johnson's brigade, come up within 75 yards of the hospital about fifteen minutes after General Liddell's brigade passed. Thus it is proved that the Seventeenth Regiment had no conflict at the hospital, and that it reached the hospital after General Liddell's brigade had passed. This, I must be permitted to say, proves too much. No combinations of proof can demonstrate to the officers and men of the Seventeenth Regiment that they did not have a fight in and about the yard of the hospital.

The simple explanation of all this, and the fact that the Second Arkansas Regiment had men wounded and killed near the hospital, is to me plainly as follows: The Seventeenth Regiment, after passing the hospital, entered the woods beyond, obliquing considerably to the right, and the regiment was here reformed, with the left resting about 75 or 100 yards to the right of and beyond the hospital. In this position, and after the regiment had passed the hospital, the half of the right company of the Second Arkansas Regiment might, perhaps, have passed to the right of the hospital without touching or seeing the Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment. The enemy were still in the woods, and might have wounded and killed men of the Second Arkansas Regiment by firing from the left, and, perhaps, the front of the hospital. By no other method can it be explained how Privates Elder and Faidley failed to witness the conflict which the Seventeenth Regiment had at the hospital. The regiment which these men saw approach was the Twenty-third Regiment, or, perhaps, some other regiment of our brigade, which came up over half an hour after the Seventeenth Regiment passed the

hospital. And I quite agree with Private Elder, of the Second Arkansas Regiment, that there was no fighting at or about the hospital after he was placed there. In common with the officers of my regiment, I am satisfied that there could not have been any Confederate soldiers guarding the hospital at the time we passed it. Indeed, it is evident, from the nature of our conflict at that point, that no Confederate soldiers could have been there at that time.

As already stated, the enemy was in full view near the Wilkinson pike when we halted beyond the hospital. Feeling apprehensive that the enemy might charge upon us, I sent Lieutenant [J. D.] Floyd back, some twenty minutes after we halted, to bring up any of our men who might be at the hospital. He stated that he saw nothing but Yankees there, and that General Liddell's brigade was then being formed in rear of the fence which runs on the north side of the large cotton-field on the left of the hospital. Captain Watterson, of the Seventeenth [Regiment], states that, in passing the hospital at the time when the regiment first came up to it, he got a drink of water from one of the surgeons. The surgeon made some complaint about the hospital having been fired into, but said he could not blame us, as the hospital had not been properly prepared.

It may be proper here to state that the hospital is named on the engineer's maps of the field of battle as the Jenkins house, and not as Mr. Grison's house.

The following statement, made by Captain Terry, will exhibit circumstantially the length of time which must have elapsed after the capture of the hospital by the Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment before General Liddell's brigade came up to it:

When the Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment halted in the woods beyond the hospital, its guides were thrown out and the line dressed. I then visited the captured wagons, loaded with ammunition, and returned to my company. I then sent Lieutenant [J. H.] Hastings, Company A, Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment, back, on foot, to Brigadier-General Polk's skirmishers, who were advancing on our right, to inform them where we were, that they might not fire on us. Lieutenant Hastings went to the rear, got on a stump to attract the attention of the skirmishers, and was fired at. He then returned to his regiment. I now took the horse captured by Lieutenant Black and the colors of the regiment, and rode back to notify our forces, which were advancing, that the Seventeenth [Regiment] was in front. I communicated with one of the regiments of General Polk's brigade and returned to my regiment. I then went to the hospital, passed through the yard into the first field on the left of the lane and north of the woods already indicated as being west of south from the hospital, met Brigadier-General Johnson here, and notified him where the Seventeenth Tennessee was. Met a battery; asked some one who seemed to be connected with it (I think it was the captain) whose battery that was, and was told that it belonged to General Liddell's brigade; then saw the infantry of this brigade near the fence on the north side of this first field—the large cotton-field. I am satisfied this was at least half an hour after we halted. I passed on and met the rest of Johnson's brigade just moving out of the woods, told them where the Seventeenth [Regiment] would be found, returned to the regiment, and remained there some minutes, during which time the Fifth Confederate Regiment passed through our lines, which was still halted. I then took 3 men from my company, went to the captured ammunition wagons, and got three boxes of cartridges. While there, Brigadier-General Polk sent some men to guard the ammunition wagons. They told me that General Polk had ordered them not to allow any ammunition to be taken out of the wagons. I replied that I had already as much as I wanted. I then returned to my company and went to the hospital; found General Liddell at the yard gate which faces toward the Wilkinson pike. As I rode up, General Liddell asked a major of his brigade if he was too badly wounded to go on in the fight. The major replied that he was not, and that he would go on. The general then told the major to go ahead to his regiment. The general then ordered the Confederate soldiers that were in the yard to go to their regiments; spoke to one particular soldier, and, pointing to him, told him to go to his regiment. The soldier replied, "You, General Liddell, just placed me here on guard." The general then said, "Well, remain there." At this time General Liddell's brigade had passed into the second field on the left, was advancing, and was nearly through it.

When the Seventeenth Regiment passed the hospital, the companies of Captains Waterson and McDonald passed through the yard of the hospital, and Captain Harrison's passed entirely on the left of the yard, a number of men of that company passing along the lane, and, as has already been shown, the firing was commenced again in rear of the hospital. General Sill's body was found not far from the hospital, "near the fence or lane," in the words of Colonel Govan, of the Second Arkansas Regiment.

Now, the foregoing statements having, in my mind, conclusively established the fact that the Seventeenth Regiment captured the Federal hospital at the Jenkins house, and that it reached that house some thirty minutes before any other troops. I cannot resist the conviction that the probabilities quite as much indicate that it was the Seventeenth Regiment which killed General Sill as that any other regiment did it. Until other facts are developed in reference to this matter, I am disposed to think that no regiment can establish this claim in its own favor. Sill might have been killed by the Seventeenth [Regiment] from the fence and lane in rear of the hospital, or he might have been killed by the Second Arkansas Regiment, which came up some thirty minutes later. Sill's body was found on the right of the lane, near the fence, and about 75 yards in rear of the hospital, and it appears exceedingly probable that he was killed by the Seventeenth Regiment firing from the fence in rear of the hospital. This is the impression prevailing in the Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment.

In making the foregoing statement, I profess to be actuated by a simple desire to do justice to all parties concerned. I would rather suffer from injustice to myself than to do injustice to a fellow soldier. I am disposed to submit the foregoing facts, with any counter statements that may be made, to the decision of the impartial tribunals into whose hands they may be destined to fall.

WATT W. FLOYD,

Lieutenant-Colonel, Comdg. Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S BRIGADE,

Tullahoma, Tenn., March 20, 1863.

I respectfully request that this communication may be forwarded to the War Department as a part of the report of the services of my brigade in the battle of Murfreesborough.

I may here add that John Watson, a private of Company A, of Seventeenth Regiment Tennessee Volunteers, was wounded near this Federal hospital.

[B. L. JOHNSON,]

Brigadier-General, C. S. Army.

No. 267.

Report of Lieut. Col. R. H. Keeble, Twenty-third Tennessee Infantry.

JANUARY 5, 1863.

The following report of the part taken by the Twenty-third Tennessee Regiment in the battle of Murfreesborough is respectfully submitted: Having been changed from the right to the left wing on the evening

before the battle, its position was in an open field, the left resting upon the road leading to the McCullough house. On the morning of the battle, the brigade and division made a right-wheel, in doing which it passed the house above referred to and continued to wheel and march until its course was almost at right angles with the one it held the evening before, marching in its wheel through a large corn-field and a meadow. Down on the edge of the meadow and to our right before we completed the wheel were stationed some of the enemy's sharpshooters, who opened upon us, doing, however, no damage. Having completed the wheel, we marched forward, obliquing to the right to avoid lapping General Liddell; we marched through a hedge-field grown up with cedar undergrowth until we reached a large corn-field. Here we received a most terrific fire from the enemy of canister, grape, and small-arms. The enemy (from where we received this fire, which lasted some time, and wounded [several] of the regiment) were within a thicket beyond the corn-field, considerably to my left and in front of General Liddell. We passed through the corn-field into an open wood, under fire of the enemy's battery, to our left, and small-arms. During all this time the enemy were concealed in the bushes, and but little, if any, firing was done on our part. Having gotten down into the woods, I was told by General Johnson that I was too far to the right, when I moved by the left flank across a road into an open field, faced to the front, and, forming with the rest of the brigade, marched through a skirt of wood across a road, leaving a hospital and old gin-house to our left. Here a change of front was made upon the First Battalion. When this was done we marched into an open field, then by the left flank across a road and into another open field. The enemy were evidently within this field, upon the brow of the hill; their battery was throwing shells upon us from there. From this field we moved by the left flank into the open woods opposite a cedar glade. We here halted and faced the cedar glade, marched into it a piece, and had a sharp brush with the enemy, who were beyond the cedar glade in a field, and marched by the flank toward our left. General Polk's brigade in the mean time had fallen back and taken position on our left. We then moved farther to the left, and, again facing to the front, marched through an open corn-field, fighting the enemy during the time. We halted at the far end of the field, having driven the enemy to the edge of the glade. Here the action continued for about an hour, when the enemy fled into the glade. I immediately advanced to his battery which he had left, when we received a heavy fire from them, concealed in the midst of the glade. It was here that Captain [N. R.] Allen, who deserves to be especially noted for his bravery, gallantry, and coolness, fell, mortally wounded. While they were firing upon us, and we were unable to get to them or see them on account of the [under]growth, my attention was called to the fact that our right had fallen back. We then fell back also, intending to reform at our old position at the fence, which, however, we found occupied by a portion of General Liddell's command (I think). We then fell back to the skirt of woods and reformed. The firing soon after ceased, and nothing else occurred.

Most respectfully,

R. H. KEEBLE,

Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Twenty-third Tennessee.

No. 268.

Report of Col. John M. Hughes, Twenty-fifth Tennessee Infantry.

ESTILL SPRINGS, TENN., January 7, 1863.

[I have the honor to submit the following] report of the part [taken in] the battle of Murfreesborough, Tenn., [by the] Twenty-fifth Tennessee Regiment:

The regiment moved by daylight in the morning with the brigade to attack the enemy. The enemy's skirmishers having commenced firing on us, Captain [M.] Lowrey's company was deployed and sent forward in advance. After the brigade wheeled to the right, this regiment rested at the end of the narrow lane. The enemy fired on our line of skirmishers as they crossed this lane. The line advanced to the top of the rise and came in plain view of the enemy's line. A hot fire opened. This regiment being fairly on top of the eminence, the **Seventeenth [Regiment]** was not on a line with it. The enemy seeing the regiment in advance, and on a fair place, I saw them turn their battery on this regiment. This cross-fire is, in my judgment, the cause of the great loss at this place in the regiment. After a few rounds had been fired, I was struck in the head and stunned considerably, so that I did not have strength to continue to command, so I left the field.

So far as I witnessed the conduct of the officers and men, it was highly commendable. The efforts of Captain [G. H.] Hash and Lieut. D. S. Walker were particularly distinguished.

JOHN M. HUGHES,
Colonel, Commanding Twenty-fifth Tennessee.

No. 269.

Report of Lieut. Col. Samuel Davis, Twenty-fifth Tennessee Infantry.

ESTILL SPRINGS, TENN., January 7, 1863.

[I have the honor to submit the following] report of the part taken by the Twenty-fifth Tennessee Regiment in the battle of Murfreesborough:

The regiment moved early in the morning with the brigade, Captain Lowrey's company in front as skirmishers. The brigade made a right-wheel and rested in a lane, with its center (this regiment) fronting another narrow lane. It was up this last lane that the enemy was first discovered. As the skirmishers moved across the lane, the brigade having moved a little by the left flank, the enemy's skirmishers fired upon them. No firing was done by the skirmishers or the regiment until the brigade was in full view of the enemy, on top of the rise. The regiment then commenced firing, and I never saw in any battle a more regular and constant fire, which was kept up until the enemy gave back. Although a great many of our men were killed and wounded at this place, the line was not confused, and the men continued to fire without noticing those killed or wounded. Colonel Hughes was wounded when the line first commenced to fire, and was conveyed away from the field by his friend, J. M. Richardson, a citizen.

When the enemy commenced to retreat, the regiment moved forward, but so many had been left out that it was impossible to keep a line any

longer. The space between the Forty-fourth and **Seventeenth [Regiments]** was then too long for so few men, but the men took advantage of the good room they had and went forward like skirmishers. Most of them went ahead of the brigade, driving the enemy before them, and then shooting obliquely across before the Forty-fourth Regiment at the enemy's line as it retired before that regiment. When the regiment arrived at the corner of that woods on the left and at the corner of a field on the right, I found that the men were some of them too anxious to go ahead in advance of the brigade, and too likely to be captured by doing so, and I therefore halted them; and seeing all the regiments taking ground to the left, I directed the men that way, and, after going about 250 yards, halted and formed the men, taking our place in the brigade. Here it was discovered that most of the men were out of ammunition. They were ordered to gather all they could from the boxes left on the field, and the adjutant was sent to hunt the train. Meeting General Cleburne, he gave the adjutant orders to get ammunition from any train. Ammunition was soon obtained from some wagons. The brigade wheeled to the right, and as soon as the regiment had marched 300 yards the firing began anew, and continued until the enemy were driven back to that cedar thicket. There a halt was made, but the fight continued some twenty minutes, and the right of the brigade gave back, and the regiment was, therefore, compelled to do the same. There was no one wounded in this firing of this regiment. The brigade then moved by the left flank about half a mile and relieved another brigade. The regiment then moved with the brigade against the enemy, firing all the time, until we crossed a field and came to a rocky cedar bluff. Here the regiment halted to fire at and drive the enemy from the thicket, but it was impossible for us to start his line. It was not many minutes until the right of the brigade left us again and we were compelled to retreat with the brigade.

There were 2 lieutenants and 7 or 8 men lost here. They are reported missing, but in all probability they are killed or wounded. The color-sergeant and colors were lost here. After this retreat the regiment was not engaged any more during the time it remained on the field.

The officers and men behaved themselves well. The regiment fought a destructive fight to the enemy, as was discovered by the dead and wounded Yankees on the part of the line we passed over. Many instances of bravery of officers and men could be mentioned, but as it seems to me that a set of men could not be more unanimous in trying to do their respective duties, no names will be mentioned, but I will only say for the regiment that all did their part with great credit.

SAMUEL DAVIS,
Lieutenant-Colonel Twenty-fifth Tennessee.

No. 270.

Report of Capt. C. G. Jarnagin, Thirty-seventh Tennessee Infantry.

JANUARY 7, 1863.

[The following is the] report of the part taken by the Thirty-seventh Tennessee Regiment in the engagement at Murfreesborough, Tenn.:

We engaged the enemy on the morning of December 31, 1862, just after day-break. We were first attacked by the enemy's sharpshooters, who were about 75 yards on our right flank, damaging us considerably,

wounding Colonel White and Lieutenant-Colonel Prayser. Major McReynolds then took command; I was placed second in command. Not having any skirmishers out, we did not know the position of the enemy; consequently we fell back behind a fence, which was about 25 yards in our rear, in order to send out skirmishers and ascertain the position of the enemy. Before this could be done, a forward movement was ordered. We moved forward about 100 yards, and engaged the enemy in a cedar thicket. We drove them back to a fence in a piece of woodland. We engaged them there for a few minutes and then charged them, making a complete rout, at the same time pouring heavy volleys of musketry into their distracted ranks, mowing them down with terrible slaughter. The enemy retreated back to a cedar glade, where they had several pieces of artillery planted. Owing to the advantageous position the enemy held, we did not pursue them immediately, but moved by the left flank into a skirt of woods, where we formed a line of battle and moved forward until we came to a field. We charged across to a cedar thicket and engaged the enemy. We were met with a warm reception, but were able to repel them, taking 40 or 50 prisoners. We drove them back until we were nearly within the enemy's lines. Seeing that we were about to be flanked, we fell back to a skirt of woods. While falling back, Major McReynolds was mortally wounded. I then took command of the regiment. We formed a line of battle in the woodland, changing our direction a little to the west. We then moved forward until we came to a large field. We charged across it until we came to a fence on the right of a log cabin. We opened fire upon the enemy, who occupied a second fence about 75 yards in front of us. We drove them from their position and occupied it for a few minutes. The enemy again fell back gradually. We were all the time pouring heavy volleys of musketry into them. We pressed upon them, taking possession of the crevices in a ledge of rocks the enemy had just occupied. We then poured buck and ball into them heavily. They had commenced running and scattering at a terrible rate, when the troops upon our right and left commenced giving way, with the cry that the enemy were flanking us. I could not see the danger, and did not give way. I got on a very high rock in order that I might make some discovery. I soon saw that Colonel [J. S.] Fulton and others were trying to rally their regiments, but failed. I waited until the enemy were about to close on us, and I gave the command to fall back. We then fell back across a field to the skirt of woods we had previously occupied and formed a line of battle. We did not engage the enemy any more only with skirmishers.

Respectfully submitted.

O. G. JARNAGIN,
Captain, Commanding.

No. 271.

Report of Col. John S. Fulton, Forty-fourth Tennessee Infantry.

ESRILL SPRINGS, TENN., January 7, 1863.

The brigade was formed in line of battle by daylight on the morning of the 31st ultimo; the Forty-fourth, occupying its position next on the right, marched from its encampment through a corn-field. When approaching a thicket, the enemy opened a battery upon us in front of the **Seventeenth Regiment**, of same brigade, wounding some 3 men of my regiment. We advanced beyond the thicket through a corn-field, when

the brigade was halted, the right resting near a cedar thicket. Here a severe fire was opened upon us by the sharpshooters of the enemy, wounding several of our men and creating some little confusion. We here deployed a company as skirmishers, who soon drove back the enemy's sharpshooters, not, however, until they had wounded several field officers and many men. We then advanced and crossed the Old Franklin road into a cedar thicket, where we had a very severe engagement, fighting some twenty minutes before the enemy gave way. Here our color-bearer was shot down, and Major Erwin was shot from his horse, and 8 company officers fell—I killed and the others wounded. We then charged and drove the enemy through a woodland, they offering a stubborn resistance, until they approached a large corn-field. Here the enemy were routed, some going through the field and others on either side thereof. The Forty-fourth Regiment passed into the corn-field several hundred yards, then moved by the left flank and entered a woodland.

When the brigade reformed, and was resupplied with ammunition, it continued to move forward under the fire of the enemy's battery to our right, which firing was very heavy. After marching until we reached the cotton-field, we made a right half-wheel, facing toward the enemy's battery, advancing through the field in its direction. Having sent forward sharpshooters, the battery retired, our skirmishers doing good service, killing and wounding both horses and men. We pressed forward then through the woods, crossing the Nolensville road, moving by the left flank, and, passing through a small field, entered another woodland. Here the brigade, marching in line of battle, engaged the enemy in a cedar bough [brake]. The enemy fell back. We took 21 prisoners and pressed the enemy. We found that we were in advance of our line of battle, and that we were about to be flanked by them on our right in heavy force. One of the prisoners taken said that had we advanced 100 yards farther we would have been surrounded by an entire division in ambush and thus cut off. The Forty-fourth and Thirty-seventh were marched by the left flank and reunited with the balance of the brigade, which fell back, to avoid a flank movement of the enemy, to our own lines.

Under the direction of the general, the brigade was reformed and ordered forward to support a portion of what I supposed was McCown's division, already engaging the enemy. We marched through a long piece of woods, entering a large corn-field, where we found that the enemy had checked that portion of McCown's division, which division was much scattered and disordered. Their officers were endeavoring to rally and carry them forward. At this moment we reached and passed them, passing a small house, and, crossing two fences, we entered a cedar thicket, which was the strongest natural position we encountered through the day, it being one of large ledges of rock of very rugged formation, protected by a heavy growth of cedar. Here we engaged the enemy, driving him back over a fence. A portion of the Forty-fourth crossed over the fence. It was at this juncture—the enemy gradually falling back, stubbornly resisting our advance, and taking advantage of the ground—bornly resisting our advance, and taking advantage of the ground—that the troops on our right were found suddenly to have broken and given back in confusion, without any apparent cause. A mounted officer of that command, passing Lieutenant-Colonel [John L.] McEwen, [Jr.], said that we were under a heavy cross-fire and must retire. Consequently, being without support, and the men witnessing the flight on our right, fell back in disorder, in spite of the efforts of the officers present.

Mississippi.

Fifth Regiment of Infantry:

Sergt. William Dabbs, Co. A.
Private Jesse Glass, Co. B.
Copt. J. J. Smith, Co. C.
Private S. G. F. Jayroe, Co. D.
Sergt. J. N. Richardson, Co. E.

Seventh Regiment of Infantry:

Private John A. Higginbotham, * Co. A.
Private H. H. Pritch, Co. B.
Private Richard K. Chaddock, Co. C.
Private Jeptha Creel, Co. D.
Sergt. George Stewart, Co. E.

Eighth Regiment of Infantry:

Private W. T. Robertson, Co. A.
Private J. H. Bonds, Co. B.
Private W. J. Pittman, Co. C.
Copt. G. B. Risher, Co. D.
Private S. T. Massey, Co. E.

Ninth Regiment of Infantry:

Private T. E. Bowden, * Co. A.
Private Thomas Gill, Co. B.
Color-Sergt. H. A. McCrosky, Co. C.
Sergt. George F. Duffy, Co. D.
Private John McAfee, * Co. E.

Forty-first Regiment of Infantry:

Sergt. John A. Moore, Co. A.
Private A. W. Bell, Co. D.
Private A. F. Anderson, Co. E.
Private A. Sanders, Co. F.
Private Samuel N. Richey, Co. G.

Companies B and C declined making selections.

Ninth Battalion of Sharpshooters:

Fourth Sergt. M. Murphy, Co. A.
Sergeant Murphy was selected by Maj. W. C. Richards, commanding battalion.
Companies B and C declined making selections.

Stanford's Light Battery:

Private Richard H. Elliott.

Jefferson Artillery:

Capt. P. Darden.
Maj. R. B. Snowdon, assistant adjutant general.

North Carolina.

Twenty-ninth Regiment of Infantry:

Copt. Abner B. Freeman, Co. A.
Private Thomas Elkin, Co. B.
Color-bearer James R. Lanning, Co. C.
First Sergt. Ervin F. Roberts, Co. D.
Copt. Willburn S. Smith, Co. E.

Thirty-ninth Regiment of Infantry:

Col. David Coleman.
Lieut. Col. Hugh H. Davidson.
Aging Adjt. Isaac S. Hyams.
First Lieut. Abram Bookler, Co. A.
Sergt. John W. Anderson, Co. B.
Sergt. John C. Rogers, Co. A.
Companies G and H made no selection;
Company K not in action.

* Killed in action.

South Carolina.

Tenth Regiment of Infantry:

First Lieut. C. C. White, Co. A.
Private A. J. McCants, Co. A.
Private J. S. Beady, Co. B.
Private W. D. Hewitt, Co. C.
Private G. S. Flowers, Co. D.
Sergt. C. W. Cockfield, * Co. E.
Private G. W. Curry, Co. F.

Nineteenth Regiment of Infantry

Col. A. J. Lythgoe.
Maj. John A. Crowder.
Private Benjamin W. Boothe, Co. A.
Private Samuel S. Horn, Co. B.
Sergt. W. H. Burkhalter, Co. C.
Private W. A. Black, Co. D.

Tennessee.

Second Regiment of Infantry:

Color-Sergt. John C. Ferris.

Fourth Regiment of Infantry:

Sergt. J. B. Wendall, Co. B.
Copt. M. R. Brown, Co. C.
Private R. L. Matthews, Co. E.

Fifth Regiment of Infantry:

Sergt. J. P. Hardcastle, Co. A.
Second Lieut. Z. B. Hamrick, Co. B.
Color-Sergt. W. Davis, Co. C.
First Lieut. W. T. Grissom, Co. C.
Copt. R. B. Roberts, Co. D.
Second Lieut. J. B. Masey, Co. E.
First Lieut. J. B. Blair, Co. G.
Sergt. J. Swan, Co. G.
Second Lieut. S. R. Richards, Co. H.
Second Lieut. W. H. Ballard, Co. L.

Eighth Regiment of Infantry:

Private D. T. Perkins, * Co. A.
Private R. E. Coulson, * Co. B.
Sergt. J. M. Jones, Co. C.
Sergt. W. J. Armstrong, * Co. D.
Sergt. Willie Simmons, Co. E.

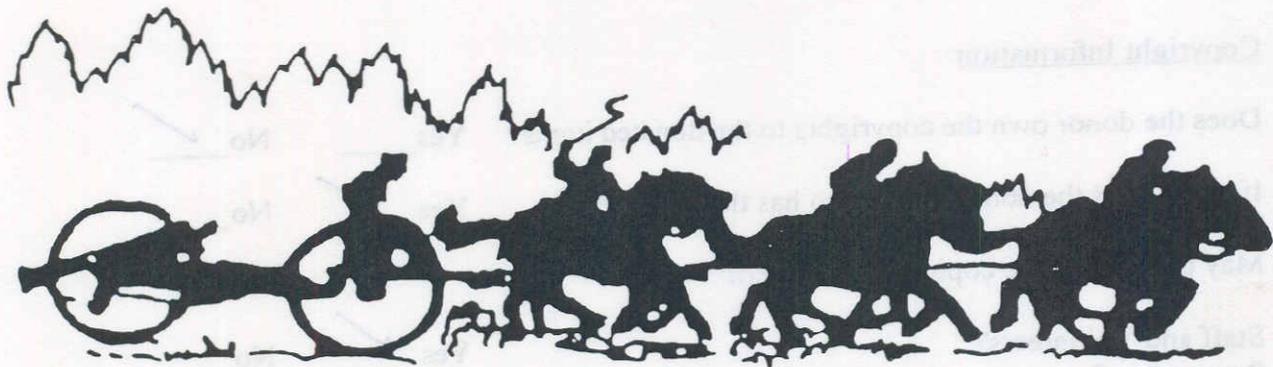
Seventeenth Regiment of Infantry:

Col. A. S. Marks.
Lieut. Col. W. W. Floyd.
Adjt. James B. Fitzpatrick.
Capt. F. B. Terry, Co. A.
First Lieut. G. W. Corn, Co. D.
First Lieut. H. M. Kinsey, Co. B.
Second Lieut. M. W. Black, Co. E.
Copt. John N. Lowry, * Co. A.
Company I declined making a selection.

Nineteenth Regiment of Infantry:

First Sergt. Joseph Thompson, Co. I.
First Sergt. Amos C. Smith, Co. B.
Sergt. George N. Richardson, Co. K.
The other companies declined making selections.

* Killed in action.



Stones River National Battlefield

3501 Old Nashville Highway
Murfreesboro, TN 37129
Phone: (615) 893-9501, Fax: (615) 893-9508

Regimental File Donation Form

Donor Name: Jeffrey Stephen Penix
Address: 4545 Barfield Crescent Road
City: Murfreesboro State: TN Zipcode: 37128
Phone: 615-848-5094 Fax: _____

Significant Person's Name: ^{Cpl.} William Matthew Hasty
Unit: ^{17th} Company A Infantry CSA

List Contents of Donation Below: