Mrs. Gladys B. Wilson
128 St. Mary's Court
Glasgow, Ky. 42141

MRS. GLADYS LEE AIKEN
1019 West 29th Street
Lawrence, Kansas 66044
Phone 913-842-8503

Ephram Thomas 9th Ky Inf
9th KY US

I certify, on honor, that Ephram Thomas, a Private of Captain H Somerly Company (K) of the 9 Regiment of Ky foot VOLUNTEERS, of the State of Kentucky, born in Barren County, State of Kentucky, aged 23 years; 5 feet 10 inches high; fair complexion, Blue eyes, light hair, and by occupation a Farmer, who joined for service and was enrolled (see Note 9) on the 25 day of Oct, 1861, at Columbia Ky by Wm T Austin, for the period of three years, and mustered into the service of the United States on the 26 day of November, 1861, at Columbia Ky, by Maj Sidell; and having served HONESTLY and FAITHFULLY with his Company to the present date, ~~is now entitled to a DISCHARGE by reason of~~ Was killed at the Battle of Stone River January 2d 1863

The said Ephraim Thomas was last paid by Paymaster Hazleton, to include the 31st day of August, 1862, and has pay due him from that time to the present date; he is entitled to pay and subsistence for TRAVELING to place of enrollment, and whatever other allowances are authorized to volunteer soldiers, drafted men, or militia, so discharged. He has received from the United States CLOTHING amounting to $69 91/100 dollars, since the ____ day of never settled 186 , when his clothing account was last settled. He has received from the United States ____/100 dollars advanced BOUNTY.

There is to be stopped from him, on account of the State of ____, or other authorities, for CLOTHING, &c., received on entering service, ____/100 dollars; and for other stoppages, viz: ____

____/100 dollars.

He has been furnished with TRANSPORTATION in kind from the place of his discharge to ____; and he has been SUBSISTED for TRAVELING to his place of enrollment, up to the ____, 186 .

He is indebted to ____, SUTLER, ____/100 dollars.

He is indebted to ____, LAUNDRESS, ____/100 dollars.

Given in Duplicate, at ____, this ____ day of ____, 186 .

Boyle A Rodes
Capt
Commanding Company.

[A. G. O. No. 95—First.]

grade was ordered to recross the pike, and there bivouacked until morning. The brigade was hotly engaged for three hours. Regimental reports, which I have the honor herewith to transmit, have accurate lists of casualties, and I refer you to them for particulars.

Commanders of regiments, officers, and soldiers did their duty gallantly, and their splendid conduct, repulsing the enemy when victoriously pursuing our disordered troops, contributed in no small measure to the successful result of the day.

My thanks are due to Lieutenants Sheets and Percival, of my staff, and the soldiers of my escort, for their efficient services in the action.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAMUEL BEATTY,
Colonel, Comdg. Third Div., Left Wing, Fourteenth Army Corps.

Capt. E. A. OTIS,
A. A. G., Third Div., Left Wing, Fourteenth Army Corps.

No. 149.

Reports of Col. Benjamin C. Grider, Ninth Kentucky Infantry, commanding regiment and First Brigade.

IN CAMP, NEAR MURFREESBOROUGH, TENN.,
January 1, 1863.

LIEUTENANT: My regiment, the Ninth Kentucky Volunteer Infantry, was early yesterday morning ordered on the south side of Stone's River, and formed in line of battle in the front line, and on the left of the Nineteenth Ohio Volunteers (Major Manderson). We had advanced a short distance down the river, when we were ordered to recross, to support our forces in the center and on the right, understanding that the enemy were driving them, and had turned our right, and probably gained our rear. We moved by the flank, and at a double-quick, to the Murfreesborough pike, and thence along that pike about a half mile to our rear, to a skirt of woods, through which we saw our men retreating, and heard that they had been before forced back through them. We formed on the pike, the Nineteenth Ohio on the right and the Ninth Kentucky on the left, the two composing the front line, supported by the Eleventh Kentucky, Major Mottley, and the Seventy-ninth Indiana, Colonel Knefler, in the rear or second line.

As soon as our retreating troops cleared the woods, our front, the Nineteenth and Ninth, opened upon the enemy a cool, well-aimed, and deadly fire, which brought them to a stand. After a few such rounds we were ordered to advance, which the men promptly did with the alacrity and steadiness of veterans, gallantly led on by all their officers, driving the enemy with great slaughter for half a mile or more. Here, the ammunition of the front line beginning to fail, and the enemy's fire having almost ceased, we were ordered to open our lines for the reserve—the Eleventh Kentucky and the Seventy-ninth Indiana—to pass through, which they did in gallant style, seeing and hearing but little of the enemy for some hundreds of yards, when they found him rallied; but again he was forced to yield to the well-directed fire and gallantry of the Eleventh Kentucky and Seventy-ninth Indiana, and

thus, for a time, the advance was continued for some distance, when we found a body of our troops broken, and retreating from our right in a direction which passed them diagonally through our lines. Our men kept firm, and we tried to rally them, but with no effect. Thus our right was exposed and turned, and you gave the order to fall back, which we did in most excellent order under the heaviest shower of balls and missiles that we had encountered during the day. Our loss here was great, and the courage and coolness of men and officers was here put to a severer test than during the advance, and well did they meet the trying emergency.

We came back a short distance, and promptly formed in line to again meet the enemy. Here General Rosecrans in person ordered me to advance my regiment to close range of the enemy, and, after giving him a few fires, to charge. I ordered the advance, but had gone only a short distance when the general ordered us to halt and cause the men to lie down, while a battery in our rear opened over us upon the enemy. After remaining here for a short time, my regiment and the Eleventh Kentucky were ordered to take position to sustain the Chicago Board of Trade Battery and another, the name of which I do not know, then threatened by the enemy. This we continued to do until late in the night, after the battle was all over for the day.

We were during this time under fire from the enemy's artillery, and lost 2 men killed and several wounded. Our loss during the day was 2 commissioned officers—First Lieuts. Silas Clark and W. J. Cram—wounded; 2 sergeants, 1 of whom was the color-bearer, killed; 1 private killed, and 19 wounded. A full list will be handed in as soon as practicable.

I have no terms of praise that can do justice to the noble bearing and unflinching bravery of all the officers and men. I mention the names of them all: Lieut. Col. George H. Cram, Maj. John H. Grider, Adjt. C. D. Bailey; Capts. R. A. Read, Rufus Somerby, D. B. Coyle, William T. Bryan; First Lieuts. A. Sidney Leggett, T. Freely Heeter, W. J. Cram (commanding companies); R. T. Patton, Boyle O. Rodes, Henry W. Mayes, Silas Clark; Second Lieuts. Frederick F. Carpenter, D. C. Downing, John P. Grinstead, James M. Simmons, and Benjamin M. Johnson.

Company A, Capt. Henry F. Leggett, was on detached duty, and, I regret, could not be in the battle, as their services, brave men and well officered as they are, would have been valuable. First Lieut. John H. Wheat was not with the regiment, being detached on duty with the Pioneer Corps.

Respectfully submitted.

B. C. GRIDER,
Colonel Ninth Kentucky Volunteers.

Lieut. W. H. H. SHEETS,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, First Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, THIRD DIVISION,
Camp in front of Murfreesborough, Saturday, January 3, 1863.

COLONEL: I had the honor to be placed in command of the First Brigade, Third Division (formerly the Eleventh Brigade), on the morning of January 1, and being ordered by you as commander of the division, I at once marched with my command to the south side of Stone's River,

falling back. Calling to Major Manderson, who halted and came back, I said to him, "Major, the Ninth is still standing; let us rally the Nineteenth and sustain her." The major replied, "We are flanked on our right; we had better fall back and rally at the foot of the hill, if we can." I told him to do so, and I would order the Ninth and Eleventh Kentucky to do the same. I rode forward for this purpose, but just as I was about to give the order to Lieutenant-Colonel Cram, he gave it to his regiment, which was then receiving most of the fire hitherto directed against the Nineteenth. The Eleventh Kentucky moved back about the same time, and both of these regiments, almost in line with some of the enemy's troops, were the last regiments to quit the field—the Nineteenth Ohio leaving first, because first exposed to the flanking fire.

We fell back, fighting, though in some disorder, crossed the river, rallied under a very heavy fire, checked the enemy, and held him in check until we were re-enforced, when I, with the flags of the Nineteenth Ohio and Ninth Kentucky, recrossed the river, followed closely by Lieutenant-Colonel Cram, Majors Mottley and Manderson, men and officers from the Nineteenth Ohio, Ninth and Eleventh Kentucky, Lieut. Philip Reefy holding the colors of the Nineteenth, and Private Moses Rourk those of the Ninth Kentucky. The Twenty-first Ohio, led by Captain ———, acting major, promptly followed. Our troops now crossed rapidly and opened fire on the south side of the river.

Observing that the men would follow and stand by their colors, I here took the flag of my own regiment (the Ninth Kentucky), and, riding forward, called on the troops to advance, to which they gallantly responded, and, rushing upon the enemy, drove them with great slaughter from and past the ground which they had occupied before the attack, the Eleventh Kentucky taking a stand of colors, and the three regiments capturing four of the enemy's guns (the Washington Artillery), the colors of the Nineteenth Ohio and the Ninth Kentucky Volunteers being the first to reach them. Lieutenant-Colonel Cram, of the Ninth, and Major Mottley, of the Eleventh Kentucky, with myself, were the first mounted officers at these guns. All three of the above regiments were represented there, and at all times in the most advanced and exposed positions. Lieutenant-Colonel Cram and Major Mottley ordered off a gun each, and I ordered off two. In short, each and every officer and man in these three regiments was all that could be asked, and far above the reach of encomiums.

Of Lieutenant-Colonel Cram, Ninth Kentucky, Major Manderson, Nineteenth Ohio, and Major Mottley, Eleventh Kentucky, I make special mention as the commanders on that day of their respective regiments. I refer to their reports accompanying this for more special notice than I can here take of the officers and men under their commands.

The result of the day was, the enemy retreated in haste and disorder, acknowledging a defeat, and evacuated Murfreesborough the next day. We bivouacked that night on the battle-field.

The loss of the three regiments under my command, as near as can be ascertained, is 250 officers and men killed, wounded, and missing, about one-third of the effective force which they had engaged. I refer for particulars to the inclosed regimental reports.

Most respectfully submitted.

B. C. GRIDER,
Colonel, Commanding First Brigade, Third Division.

Col. SAMUEL BEATTY,
Comdg. Third Div., Left Wing, Fourteenth Army Corps.

and bivouacked in the woods and fields belonging, as I learned, to a man named Hoover. Some skirmishing and picket firing was soon heard and some rebel cavalry seen, but nothing worthy of notice occurred during the day. That night the enemy attempted to drive in our pickets, but failed.

Next morning opened with brisk cannonading on the part of the enemy, to which our artillery made no reply. Our skirmishers in front were actively engaged all day. It was then ascertained that the enemy had planted a battery in our front, and a section or more on our left, and that a portion of their guns across the river, which came down in a course parallel with our right, could reach us with a raking fire, and interfere with our crossing at the first ford, if compelled to recross. It was also suggested by myself and other officers, Major Manderson, commanding the Nineteenth Ohio, particularly, that our right, resting on the river, was exposed, and might be attacked and turned, and that neither the depth of the stream nor character of the banks was a sufficient protection; that troops and artillery were needed on the opposite side to sustain our right. You and we all were assured that this was attended to, and we rested on that assurance.

Thus matters stood until about an hour before sundown, when artillery firing on the part of the enemy and heavy skirmishing on both sides commenced. We now supposed that the attack which we had all day expected would be postponed until daylight the next day, but were mistaken. The enemy were seen advancing in three lines, the front composed of a battalion of sharpshooters, and the other lines composed of the whole divisions of Generals John C. Breckinridge and Cheatham. Generals Roger W. Hanson and James E. Rains, of Kentucky,* as I learn, were present in Breckinridge's command. The regiments of my brigade (the Nineteenth Ohio, Major Manderson, on the right; the Ninth Kentucky, Lieutenant-Colonel Cram, in the center, and the Eleventh Kentucky, Major Mottley, on the left) were, by your orders, held in reserve. The Seventy-ninth Indiana had been about noon ordered to form on and sustain the front line, composed of the Third Brigade, Col. S. W. Price commanding, and were not again seen by me during the day. I doubt not they will receive justice at the hands of the colonel under whose command they were placed.

The onset of the enemy, sustained as they were by their artillery, succeeded in breaking and driving back our first and second lines. You now sent me an order to bring up the reserve, which I instantly did, though it was almost manifest, from the character of the fire in front, that the force we had on the ground, unassisted as we at that moment were by artillery, could not check the enemy's advance. Yet our men (the Nineteenth Ohio, Ninth Kentucky, and Eleventh Kentucky), undaunted by the terrible and desperate state of affairs, with bravery that cannot be described, and led on by their officers, the most cool and daring, moved forward, some through a thick undergrowth of wild briers, which to some extent broke their lines, fearlessly meeting the enemy and breaking his first line. Seeing this from my position, between and slightly in front of the Nineteenth Ohio and Ninth Kentucky, and noticing you just in my rear, I said to you, "Colonel, we have them checked; give us artillery and we will whip them." You replied, "You shall have it."

I rode back and soon saw the right regiment (the Nineteenth Ohio)

* Of Tennessee.

commanding the Third Division, took up a position in front, with the Thirty-fifth Regiment Indiana Volunteers on the right and the Forty-fourth Regiment Indiana Volunteers on the left. A company of skirmishers was deployed in an open wood to cover the front of the regiment.

During the day several pieces of artillery were placed in position by the enemy on a rise of ground some 500 yards distant, throwing shell into our lines, severely wounding some of the men. The regiment was sheltered, as far as the nature of the ground would permit, by lying down.

About 4 p. m. the fire of the skirmishers increased, and a column of the enemy, four or five regiments deep, approached rapidly, supported by artillery, which was kept concealed (as it was dragged by men instead of horses) until it opened fire within 100 yards of our lines. The forces on the right soon became engaged, but the regiment was kept lying on the ground until the enemy had approached within 50 yards, when it was ordered to rise up, and commenced firing with very destructive effect upon the enemy, volley after volley, until, the line having given way on the right and left, the regiment being left alone almost surrounded, the enemy in front and on both flanks, it was forced to fall back across Stone's River, where it rallied at the rendezvous of the Third Division.

The regiment went into action on December 31 with 341, rank and file, and lost during both engagements fully one-third of its available force, including more than half the commissioned officers in killed and wounded; but very few men are missing or taken prisoners.

Officers and soldiers conducted themselves well, doing their duty, and there was no shirking or skulking from the field before or during action. It would be injustice to many to mention a few, when all behaved well.

Lieut. Eli F. Ritter, adjutant of the regiment, rendered me very valuable service, acting as a field officer in the absence of the lieutenant-colonel.

A report of casualties is submitted herewith.*

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

FRED. KNEFLER,
Colonel Seventy-ninth Regiment Indiana Volunteers.

Capt. E. A. OTIS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Third Division, Fourteenth Army Corps.

No. 151.

Report of Lieut. Col. George H. Cram, Ninth Kentucky Infantry, of engagement January 2.

JANUARY —, 1863.

I respectfully submit the following as my report of the part my regiment took in the engagement of January 2, 1863, on the left wing of our army, in front of Murfreesborough:

Early in the forenoon Colonel Grider ordered me to hold my regiment in reserve, with another regiment of his brigade (the Nineteenth Ohio), under cover of a hill about 200 yards from the upper ford of Stone's River, and told me that the enemy would probably attack us some time during the day, and ordered me to hold my regiment in readiness to re-enforce our line, if the enemy should attack us in too great force.

* Embodied in revised statement, p. 213.

foe fought us bravely, but could not withstand such a terrible fire. He gave way slowly, and we not only retook the lost ground, but drove him over a mile, cutting him up badly and capturing his artillery, changing the result of the battle from a defeat to a splendid victory. The colors of the Ninth Kentucky recrossed the river by the side of those of the Nineteenth Ohio, and under your leadership. The regiments of your brigade, shattered as they were, were the first to wave their flags over the captured guns of the enemy.

My officers and men fought splendidly, under the most discouraging circumstances. Every man in the regiment knew what he had to encounter when we were ordered forward, but not one faltered. They knew that the gallant reserve—the Nineteenth Ohio and Ninth Kentucky—were insufficient to check the victorious enemy.

Major Grider was wounded while gallantly cheering on his men early in the engagement, and Adjutant Bailey soon afterward. I felt the loss of these officers greatly. Captain Bryan was mortally wounded, doing his duty nobly. Captain Coyle was killed while cheering on his men. Lieutenants Leggett and Carpenter were killed at the head of their companies. Captain Read, Lieutenants Heeter and Johnson were wounded while fighting gallantly.

I take pleasure in mentioning the following officers, whose gallant conduct deserves great praise: Captain Somerby, Lieutenants Patton, Downing, Grinstead, Rodes, and Mayes. Private Moses Rourk, of Company C, deserves special mention. When the colors were shot down, in the engagement of the 31st, he grasped them and brought them safely through the fight, and in the battle of January 2 he carried them into the thickest of the fight, and was at times left almost alone.

He is but eighteen years of age, and is one of the bravest soldiers in the army.

Our loss was as follows:* Commissioned officers killed, 4; wounded, 7. Enlisted men, killed, 18; wounded, 80; prisoners, 3 (wounded). Of the above, 3 were killed and 21 wounded on the 31st. (See Colonel Grider's regimental report.)

I have the honor to be, your most obedient servant,

GEO. H. CRAM,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Comdg. Ninth Kentucky Volunteers.

No. 152.

Reports of Maj. Erasmus L. Mottley, Eleventh Kentucky Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS ELEVENTH KENTUCKY VOLUNTEERS,
January 6, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to report the part my regiment (Eleventh Kentucky Volunteers) took in the action of December 31, 1862.

The night previous we bivouacked in an open field adjacent to the Murfreesborough pike. Next morning, about 8 o'clock, we were ordered to follow the Ninth Kentucky Regiment and cross the river, where we were placed in line of battle, supporting them. We remained in that position about half an hour, when we recrossed the river, still moving in our position as first placed, having marched about half a mile parallel with the pike.

Was then ordered to halt and front, still occupying my position in the rear of the Ninth Kentucky Volunteers. The firing then began by the regiments in front of me, and continued about half an hour, when I was ordered to move forward and relieve the Ninth Kentucky, which was about 100 yards in advance. We did so, moving in line of battle about 500 yards. We then halted, as our farther advance was interrupted by about four regiments of scattered troops rushing through our line. After they had passed we opened a heavy and destructive fire on the enemy, who were advancing against me, and remained in that position, firing, till the right of our division was nearly flanked, when we received an order from you to fall back, which I did (bringing several prisoners with me) in line of battle, till I reached a dense thicket, when I moved by the left flank. We then formed line in an open field, and were ordered by General Rosecrans in person to occupy the thicket through which we had just passed, and hold it at all hazards. We did so.

Just at this moment the enemy were advancing in strong force on our left, when the left wing of the regiment opened an oblique, galling fire upon them, making them fall back. We were then ordered back by you to the large open field on our left, to support two pieces of Terrill's Regular and the Chicago Board of Trade Batteries, where we remained the remainder of the day, my entire regiment, both officers and men, doing their whole duty.

Inclosed find list of casualties.†

Very respectfully,

E. L. MOTTLEY,
Major, Commanding Eleventh Kentucky.

Col. SAMUEL BEATTY,
Commanding First Brigade, Third Division.

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* Nominal list omitted.

† Embodied in revised statement, p. 213.

Colors of 9th Ky
taken on Jan 2 1863 by
28th Tenn.— col. Cunningham (killed)
" I x was much torn + mutilated
and stained with blood in the fights
and has many ball holes in it"
report of G.J. Pillow Brig. Gen CSA
to p. 807-809- O.R.A. Series I
Vol 20 part I.