

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.

Maj. Gen. P. R. CLEBURNE.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. L. E. POLK.

1st Arkansas, Col. John W. Colquitt.
 13th Arkansas.
 15th Arkansas.
 5th Confederate, Col. J. A. Smith.
 2d Tennessee, Col. W. D. Robison.
 5th Tennessee, Col. B. J. Hill.
 Helena (Ark.) Artillery, Lieut. T. J. Key.

Second Brigade.

Brig. Gen. Sr. JOHN R. LIDDELL.

2d Arkansas, Col. D. C. Govan.
 5th Arkansas, Lieut. Col. John E. Murray.
 6th Arkansas, } Col. S. G. Smith.
 7th Arkansas, } Lieut. Col. F. J. Cameron.
 8th Arkansas, } Maj. W. F. Douglass.
 Col. John H. Kelly.
 Lieut. Col. G. F. Baucum.
 Swett's (Mississippi) battery, Lieut. H. Shannon.

MCCOWN'S DIVISION.*

Maj. Gen. J. P. MCCOWN.

First Brigade.†

Brig. Gen. M. D. ECTOR.

10th Texas Cavalry, Col. M. F. Locke.
 11th Texas Cavalry:
 Col. J. C. Burks.
 Lieut. Col. J. M. Bounds.
 14th Texas Cavalry, Col. J. L. Camp.
 15th Texas Cavalry, Col. J. A. Andrews.
 Texas Battery, Capt. J. P. Douglas.

*Third Brigade.*Brig. Gen. EVANDER MCNAIR.
Col. R. W. HARPER.

1st Arkansas Mounted Rifles: †
 Col. R. W. Harper.
 Maj. L. M. Ramsaur.
 2d Arkansas Mounted Rifles, † Lieut. Col. J. A. Williamson.
 4th Arkansas, Col. H. G. Bunn.
 30th Arkansas:
 Maj. J. J. Franklin.
 Capt. W. A. Cotter.
 4th Arkansas Battalion, Maj. J. A. Ross.
 Arkansas Battery, Capt. J. T. Humphreys.

* Of Smith's corps, serving with Hardee.

† The regiments of this brigade serving as infantry.

‡ Serving as infantry.

Third Brigade.

Brig. Gen. BUSHROD R. JOHNSON.

17th Tennessee:
 Col. A. S. Marks.
 Lieut. Col. W. W. Floyd.
 23d Tennessee, Lieut. Col. R. H. Keeble
 25th Tennessee:
 Col. J. M. Hughs.
 Lieut. Col. Samuel Davis.
 37th Tennessee:
 Col. M. White.
 Maj. J. T. McReynolds.
 Capt. C. G. Jarnagin.
 44th Tennessee, Col. John S. Fulton.
 Jefferson (Miss.) Artillery, Capt. Pnt. Darden.

Fourth Brigade.

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

16th Alabama, Col. W. B. Wood.
 33d Alabama, Col. Samuel Adams.
 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.

CAVALRY.*

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH WHEELER.

Wheeler's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH WHEELER.

1st Alabama, Col. W. W. Allen.
 3d Alabama:
 Maj. F. Y. Gaines.
 Capt. T. H. Mauldin.
 51st Alabama:
 Col. John T. Morgan.
 Lieut. Col. J. D. Webb.
 8th Confederate, Col. W. B. Wade.
 1st Tennessee, Col. James E. Carter.
 — Tennessee Battalion, DeWitt C. Douglass.
 — Tennessee Battalion, Maj. D. W. Holman.
 Arkansas Battery, Capt. J. H. Wiggins.

Buford's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. A. BUFORD.

3d Kentucky, Col. J. R. Butler.
 5th Kentucky, Col. D. H. Smith.
 6th Kentucky, Col. J. W. Grigsby.

Pegram's Brigade.†

Brig. Gen. JOHN PEGRAM.

1st Georgia.
 1st Louisiana.

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.
 Maj. F. M. Ison.
 3d Georgia (detachment), Maj. R. Thompson.
 2d Tennessee, Col. H. M. Ashby.
 4th Tennessee, Col. Baxter Smith.
 — Tennessee Battalion, Maj. John R. Davis.
 8th Texas, Col. Thomas Harrison.
 Murray's (Tennessee) regiment, Maj. W. S. Bledsoe.
 Escort company, Capt. Paul F. Anderson.
 McCown's escort company, Capt. L. T. Hardy.
 White's (Tennessee) battery, Capt. B. F. White, jr.

ARTILLERY.‡

Baxter's (Tennessee) battery.
 Byrne's (Kentucky) battery.
 Gibson's (Georgia) battery.

No. 190.

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

MURFREESBOROUGH, TENN., December 30, 1862.

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

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.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

General S. COOPER.

* Forrest's and Morgan's commands on detached service

† Probably incomplete.

‡ Byrne's 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.	Total.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.		
<i>Wood's Brigade—Cont'd.</i>											
33d Alabama	14	14	3	83	86	1	1	101			
3d Confederate	6	5	3	24	27	37	37	69			
45th Mississippi	1	4	5	4	35	39	6	64	70	114	Capt. J. D. Frazier.
15th Battalion Mississippi Sharpshooters.	1	2	3	25	25	5	5	33			Capt. D. Coleman.
Sample's battery	1	1	1	18	19			20			
Total	7	45	52	20	319	339	6	107	113	504	
<i>Johnson's Brigade.</i>											
Staff			2		2						
17th Tennessee	1	16	17	10	154	164	6	20	26	207	Capt. F. M. Orr.
23d Tennessee		3	2	33	40	8	8	51			
25th Tennessee	1	15	16	11	78	89	2	13	15	120	Lieut. Simpson Isom.
37th Tennessee	1	10	11	6	45	51	6	6	68		Maj. J. T. McReynolds.
44th Tennessee	1	13	14	15	121	136	1	1	2	152	Lieut. J. J. Hill.
Darden's battery				6	6			6		6	
Total	4	57	61	46	442	488	9	48	57	606	
<i>Liddell's Brigade.</i>											
Staff			1	2	3			3		3	
2d Arkansas	15	15	1	93	94	9	9	118			
5th Arkansas	1	11	12	9	126	135	1	1	148		Lieut. A. J. Jones.
6th and 7th Arkansas	3	26	29	12	128	140	8	8	177		Capt. J. T. Armstrong and Lieuts. J. L. McCollum and Henry Fisher.
8th Arkansas	4	25	29	10	114	124			153		Lieuts. T. H. Beard, S. B. Cole, Calvin East, and H. J. McCurdy.
Sweet's battery	1	1		7	7			8		8	
Total	8	78	86	33	470	503	18	18	607		
<i>Polk's Brigade.</i>											
1st Arkansas	11	11	9	81	90	1	1	102			
13th and 15th Arkansas	4	4	2	47	59	5	5	68			
5th Confederate	7	7	9	55	64	12	12	83			
2d Tennessee	2	2	4	6	53	59		63		63	Capt. C. P. Moore and Lieut. J. L. Gifford.
5th Tennessee	1	1	1	23	24			25		25	
Calvert's battery	3	3		2	2	1	1	6		6	
Total	2	28	30	37	261	298	19	19	347		
Grand total Cleburne's division.	21	208	229	138	1,492	1,630	15	192	207	2,066	
Grand total Hardee's corps.	47	450	497	251	1,796	3,047	18	565	583	4,127	
MCCOWN'S DIVISION.											
<i>Ector's Brigade.</i>											
Staff			2	2	4			4		4	
10th Texas Cavalry *	10	10	12	81	93	1	14	15	118		Lieuts. M. V. Clary, L. G. Heffner, and J. M. Hopson mortally wounded.
11th Texas Cavalry *	8	8	10	79	89	3	15	18	115		Col. John C. Burks mortally wounded.

* Dismounted.

Return of casualties in the Confederate forces—Continued.

Command.	Killed.			Wounded.			Missing.			Aggregate.	Officers killed.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Total.		
<i>Ector's Brigade—Cont'd.</i>											
14th Texas Cavalry *	5	5	10	42	52	1	11	12	69		
15th Texas Cavalry *	5	5	5	31	36	3	3	44			
Douglas' battery				2	2			2		2	
Total	28	28	30	237	276	5	43	48	352		
<i>Rains' Brigade.</i>											
3d Georgia Battalion	8	6	5	28	33			39			Lieut. W. L. Prior mortally wounded.
9th Georgia Battalion	1	1	2	9	11			12		12	
29th North Carolina	5	5	3	47	50	5	5	60		60	
11th Tennessee	8	8	10	54	64	11	11	83		83	
Eufaula (Ala.) Artillery				3	3	2	2	5		5	
Total	20	20	20	141	161	18	18	199		199	
<i>McNair's Brigade.</i>											
1st Arkansas Rifles	9	9	13	69	82	4	4	95			Capt. Thomas F. Spence.
2d Arkansas Rifles	1	9	10	82	99	4	7	120		120	
4th Arkansas	8	8	9	52	61	1	9	79		79	
4th Arkansas Battalion	1	4	5	19	19	5	5	29		29	Lieut. W. C. Douglass.
30th Arkansas	2	8	10	12	51	63	22	22	95		Capt. S. T. Black and Lieut. D. J. Wright.
Humphreys' battery				1	5	6		6		6	
Total	4	38	42	52	278	330	5	47	52	424	
Escort company	2	2		2	2	1	1	5		5	
Grand total McCown's division.†	4	88	92	111	658	769	10	100	110	980	
JACKSON'S BRIGADE.											
5th Georgia	2	10	12	48	48			60		60	Col. William T. Black and Lieut. J. W. Eason.
2d Georgia Battalion Sharpshooters.	3	3	3	26	29			32		32	
5th Mississippi	1	5	6	8	66	74		80		80	Capt. J. H. Morgan.
8th Mississippi	1	19	20	12	101	113		133		133	Lieut. J. J. Hood.
Total	4	37	41	23	241	264		305		305	
RECAPITULATION.											
Polk's corps	54	547	601	282	3,404	3,686	5	161	166	4,453	
Hardee's corps	47	450	497	251	1,796	3,047	18	565	583	4,127	
McCown's division	4	88	92	111	658	769	10	109	119	980	
Jackson's brigade	4	37	41	23	241	264		305		305	
Grand total‡	109	1122	1236	667	6,099	7,766	33	835	868	9,865	

* Dismounted.

† Notes on original lists indicate that all these casualties, except 4 of the wounded in Rains' 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 Inclosure C to Bragg's report, p. 674. No returns from Pegram's cavalry brigade.

it 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 Swett'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,
Tullahoma, 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 McCown'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.....	598
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 McCullough house. The order was immediately given to advance in support of Major-General McCown'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 Triune 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 McCown'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 Triune 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.] Frazer, 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 Triune 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 enfilading 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 aught 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 Jarnagin 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), Seventeenth 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 concur 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 re-enforcements 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 assail 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 accouterments. 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 infirmary 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.] Keeble, 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	18	176	24	218
23d Tennessee	4	48	11	63
25th Tennessee	13	91	14	118
37th Tennessee	6	39	1	46
44th Tennessee	14	134	26	174
Jefferson Artillery				
General and staff				
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. Vanleer, also 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.

HDQRS. ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT, JOHNSON'S BRIGADE,
Tullahoma, 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.

TULLAHOMA, 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 McCown'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 space 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

In retiring, our loss was considerable, 2 officers and nearly 20 men. A general retreat took place. We fell back through the field a considerable distance into the woods, where, with great difficulty, the command was reformed at 4 p. m. The brigade remained in line of battle without any more fighting, under the fire of the enemy's artillery of long range.

It affords me pleasure to state that the officers and men of my command behaved with great gallantry, with the exception of a few persons who fled the field under the fire of the enemy, and whose names shall be reported for the consideration of the general.

Respectfully submitted.

JNO. S. FULTON,

Colonel, Commanding Forty fourth Tennessee Volunteers.

R. B. SNOWDEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[P. S.]—A list of the killed and wounded is also herewith submitted.*

No. 272.

Reports of Capt. Putnam Darden, Jefferson Artillery.

NEAR ESTILL SPRINGS, TENN.,
January 7, 1863.

SIR: In obedience to your orders, I have the honor to report the part taken by my battery in the battle of Murfreesborough.

On December 31, 1862, my battery was temporarily detached from your brigade, and ordered to report at Triune to Brigadier-General Wood, for duty.

On December 26, we were ordered into line of battle.

On the 27th, we had an affair with the enemy, and returned toward Murfreesborough, arriving there on the morning of the 30th, with men and horses very much fatigued by the march and exposure, having slept without tents and exposed to the rain most of the time since we left Triune. In this condition we arrived on the battle-field illy prepared to go into an engagement. We were posted on the right. Late in the evening of the 30th we were to the left.

On the morning of December 31, we were ordered by General Cleburne to report to you for duty. We found your lines just ready to move off. We formed in rear of the center of your brigade and followed on. We moved on for nearly a mile, when we came to a halt on the road. The brigade moved by the left flank for a short distance, then by the right through a small skirt of woods. Emerging from the woods we entered a corn-field, when the firing became general along the lines of your brigade. I moved the battery into the field, but could not engage the enemy without endangering our men, who were in front. I immediately moved by the left flank to an elevated position, and came into battery to the right under a murderous fire of canister from one of the enemy's batteries, posted about 400 yards distant. We opened fire with shell, shrapnel, and solid shot (we could not use canister without injuring our own men), and in about twenty minutes had the satisfaction of knowing that we had silenced their guns. Shortly after this a battery on the left opened on the brigade on our left (General Liddell's, I think). We im-

* Embodied in No. 191, p. 680.

mediately threw our guns into position, bearing on the battery, but could not open fire for our infantry, which was in front of us. But this obstacle was soon removed by moving by the flank to a position where they were not in our way. We then opened fire on the battery, and in a few minutes it limbered and retired with its supporting infantry through an open field nearly a mile in length. We played on their retreating columns until they were out of the reach of our guns. We then refilled our chests with ammunition and moved on as rapidly as possible. When we arrived near the Federal hospital we received orders from Major Hotchkiss, acting chief of artillery, to move down to the right of your brigade, and in rear of General Wood's brigade, and open fire at first opportunity.

We moved into the woods about midnight, between the two fields on which the Federal hospitals were located, and opened fire on the enemy, who were then pursuing General Wood's brigade, and succeeded in driving them back. We then limbered up and moved round to the right, in the field near the hospital, which is about 300 yards to the right of the pike, and, in conjunction with two guns of *Captain Humphreys' battery*, engaged a battery of the enemy, and, after a hotly contested fight, silenced four of his guns. By this time our infantry had rallied, reformed, and did the rest of the work for that battery. Our ammunition was then exhausted. We supplied our chests from the captured batteries, and were placed in position by General Hardee about 3 o'clock.

About 4.30 o'clock, reported, by order of General Hardee, to General Stewart (whose brigade was posted in the cedar brake on the left of the pike), to fight a battery of the enemy. After consultation, it was thought improper to open fire.

After dark I was ordered by Major [L.] Hoxton [of Hardee's staff] to the position I held at 3 o'clock. There we remained until next day, when we were ordered to rejoin our brigade. After dark of the same day I was ordered by General Cleburne to a position protecting the left of our division. Here we remained until the night of January 2, 1863, when the division moved over the right of our lines.

Nothing more of importance occurred until we retired toward Manchester. We moved five pieces of artillery off the field to Murfreesborough.

Corpl. H. A. Hendrixson wounded in the foot by explosion of a shell; Private J. T. F. Waters injured on the hip and shoulder-blade by a limb torn from a tree by a solid shot. Four others were slightly [wounded], but not enough to disable them.

I cannot speak too highly of the judgment, prudence, and courage displayed by my three-lieutenants—[H. W.] Bullen, [F. W.] Coleman, and [C. B.] Richardson—in the management of their commands in the battle, nor of the deliberation and good judgment displayed by the non-commissioned officers in the management of their pieces, nor of the gallantry, energy, promptness, soldierly bearing of the privates in the discharge of their arduous duties in the ever memorable battle of Murfreesborough.

Respectfully submitted.

P. D. DARDEN,
Captain, Commanding Battery.

General B. R. JOHNSON.

[P. S.—Captured] Michigan battery, with shot, canister, case, and solid ball. The captain was wounded and taken prisoner, and he stated to men of D[arden's] battery: "Killed all horses in one caisson and injured the pieces and horses so that he could not remove it. Killed 8 men and wounded a number."

enemy's batteries, somewhat in front of Cobb's batteries, we covered ourselves as well as we could under the earthwork, and made no reply until a fierce engagement took place on the opposite side of the river, when we had an opportunity of firing into the enemy with an enfilading fire at good range. After about 30 rounds fired from each piece at this point, we were ordered to limber up and advance to the position occupied by Cobb's and Lumsden's batteries, about 500 yards to the right and front. This was about 12 or 1 o'clock, and as soon as we arrived we opened upon a battery of eight or ten rifled guns at about 1,000 yards, which was pouring its fire into our infantry, then advancing on the opposite side of the river, and in a very short time directed their fire to us. Our infantry continued to advance over this hotly contested field, and in about twenty minutes drove the enemy in masses past us at very short range, so that we fired into them several rounds of double-shotted canister at about 550 yards from the eminence above them. The enemy then endeavored to reform their lines under cover of the timber intervening between them and our troops, when we fired into them with spherical case, and caused them to move off farther to their right.

Such was the excellence of the earthwork constructed by Major Graves' orders, and the commanding character of the position, that we did not lose a single man, and had only two horses wounded here. The casualties in Cobb's battery, next to us, were, however, quite serious. We remained in this position until about 4 a. m. on the 1st, when I was ordered to report to you, which I did, at your position on the opposite side of the river, about sunrise. In the march to join you, I met Lieutenant Pollard, who, with one section of my battery, had acted with a part of the Washington Artillery on the opposite side of the river, without any casualty, except the loss of two horses and one man slightly wounded.

Major Hotchkiss, acting chief of artillery in your division, having been wounded on the 31st, I was ordered, on joining you, to act in that capacity.

On the 1st, neither my battery nor any part of the artillery of the division was engaged, except Swett's battery, which advanced on our extreme left with Liddell's brigade, and fired a few rounds into the enemy, who then appeared to be retreating toward and up the Nashville pike.

On the morning of the 2d, I was ordered by General Bragg to send four pieces of my battery to report to him at the junction of the Wilkinson and Nashville pikes, and accordingly I sent two sections (the right and left), under First Lieutenant [E. J.] Fitzpatrick and Second Lieutenant [J.] Pollard. They were engaged in the extreme advance and right of the artillery which supported the attack made on the afternoon of the 2d by a part of Breckinridge's division on the enemy's left wing. Captain [F. H.] Robertson, General Polk's chief of artillery, and Major Graves, chief of artillery General Breckinridge's division, expressed themselves as well pleased with the conduct of the battery, but the infantry fell back in such confusion, and the fire of the enemy was so deadly, that when Mr. [Lieutenant] Fitzpatrick attempted, under Major Graves' orders, to draw off the pieces, one of them was left on the field. Mr. [Lieutenant] Fitzpatrick reports to me that two of the drivers and four of the horses of this piece were killed or wounded; all the cannoneers except two were killed or wounded. Our infantry had passed them in hurried flight, the last at least 150 yards, and the enemy were advancing in front and on the flank not more than 100 yards distant.

In this short engagement (half an hour), of the 45 men and officers taken on the field, 20 [were either] killed or wounded; 10 (including

Lieutenant Pollard, whose right arm and leg were broken by musket shots), were killed or severely wounded, and 10 (with 14 horses) slightly wounded.

I found upon the field, and appropriated to my use, about 130 rounds of excellent 12-pounder fixed ammunition, and also the rear part of a caisson, which I took in place of one of mine.

HENRY C. SEMPLE,

Captain Company Light Artillery.

Major-General [P. R.] CLEBURNE.

No. 280.

Reports of Maj. Gen. John P. McCown, C. S. Army, commanding division, Smith's corps.

SHELBYVILLE, TENN., January 16, 1863.

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE,
C. S. Army, Tullahoma, Tenn.:

GENERAL: I send in my report of the part my division took in the battle in front of Murfreesborough, Tenn., on January [December] 31, 1862. The accompanying papers, including subordinate reports, I hope will give you all the information you desire.

Very respectfully, &c.,

J. P. McCOWN,
Major-General.

[Inclosures.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, SMITH'S CORPS,
Shelbyville, Tenn., January 20, 1863.

Having acted under the orders of Lieutenant-General Hardee at the battle before Murfreesborough, on December 31, 1862, I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by my division:

My division is composed of three brigades, constituted as follows,†

* * * my effective force being about 4,000 men.

My command was located at Readyville, Tenn., 12 miles east of Murfreesborough.

At 12 o'clock, on the night of December 26, I received orders from the general commanding to move at once to Murfreesborough. I arrived at 9 a. m. on the 27th, this march being made in a cold and drenching rain. In obedience to orders, my division was posted near the Nashville pike, behind Stone's River, as the reserve to the Army of Tennessee.

On the 29th, I moved my division to our extreme left, to fill an interval between Lieutenant-General Polk's left and the Triune road. Not finding an interval, I posted my command on the left of the Triune road, in a lane at nearly right angles to said road, and about 150 yards in advance of Lieutenant-General Polk's advance line, with Brigadier-General McNair's brigade in reserve; two batteries in reserve, and one (Eufaula Light Artillery) near my center.

On the 30th, the enemy extended his lines to our left, placing in position several batteries, and later in the day made a determined attack upon Robertson's battery, placed on General Polk's left. I directed the Eufaula Light Artillery to be posted so as to take the enemy's line and one battery in flank. Brigadier-General Rains executed this order, in person, with considerable damage to the enemy.

† See Organization of the Army of Tennessee, No. 189, p. 660.

About this time another battery opened upon my front, killing and wounding about 30 of my command, principally from Brigadier-General McNair's brigade. Night closed this almost a battle. During the night the enemy extended his lines, covering my front.

At the dawn of day, in obedience to orders from Lieutenant-General Hardee, I moved my reserve brigade (McNair's) and placed it on my right, and moved upon the enemy in my front, about 600 or 800 yards distant. I will here state that Major-General Cleburne's division was placed in rear of my command as a second line. The Triune road turned square to the left about 150 yards in front of Lieutenant-General Polk's left, and again square to the right about 400 yards from the first turn. An open field on my entire front; on the right of the field and in front of Lieutenant-General Polk's left was a cedar brake.

As I advanced, my right flank received a galling fire from this brake, as well as in my front, from both infantry and artillery. My men advanced steadily, reserving their fire until they were but a short distance from the enemy's position. A volley was delivered, and their position and batteries taken with the bayonet, leaving the ground covered with his dead and wounded, leaving also many prisoners in our hands; among them Brigadier-General [August] Willich, captured by Mr. James Stone, volunteer aide to General McNair, and another officer representing himself as a brigadier-general (name forgotten), captured by General McNair's orderly, volunteer King. The enemy made several attempts to rally, but failed, being closely pressed by my men, their defeat becoming almost a rout. The enemy was pressed near a mile. The force of the enemy in my front prevented me throwing forward my left wing as soon as instructed by Lieutenant-General Hardee.

In the mean time the enemy pushed a force to my right and rear, close upon the battery captured on my right. Captain [J. P.] Douglas coming up with his battery, came close upon this body of the enemy, discovering that the enemy supposed it to be a Federal battery. He obliqued to the left, came into battery, not bearing on the enemy, they waving their flags at him. In an instant he turned his guns upon them and opened with canister. The surprise was complete, and the enemy fell back in considerable disorder.

About this time a heavy force was brought against my right flank. Brigadier-General McNair, commanding the brigade on my right, discovered their movements and halted his brigade. I directed General McNair to face his brigade to the right, and file it to the right to check this movement. The moment was critical. I sent the same order to Generals Ector and Rains, which was promptly obeyed by them, leaving a strong body of the enemy in their front. Seeing General Liddell's brigade in the rear, I brought it forward and placed it on my right to cover this change of front. General Liddell became at once engaged with a largely superior force, the enemy under shelter of a fence, General Liddell in an open field. He gallantly maintained his ground until General McNair's brigade was placed on his left. General McNair at once moved upon the enemy, pushing his right on his center and forcing him from his position for half a mile. The enemy was here posted behind a rail fence. Again General McNair advanced across an open field for nearly 400 yards, and drove them from their position, capturing all but two guns of their battery—one of those afterward captured. General Liddell's brigade co-operated in this action. The enemy was actively pursued for about three-quarters of a mile, where the division was halted and ammunition issued—40 rounds having been nearly exhausted. Brigadier-General McNair, by his skill and energy, defeated the enemy in this last action before I could bring Generals Ector and

Rains into action. Here General McNair became exhausted, having left a sick bed to lead his brigade. I sent him back to camp, Col. R. W. Harper taking command of the brigade. Captain Humphreys, with his battery on my right, engaged one of the enemy's batteries in flank and rear. This battery was soon silenced or captured by our troops in its front.

We were now near the Wilkinson pike. The command was much exhausted, having forced the enemy's left back several miles, and three times defeated the forces sent to check our advance. I may here add that prisoners, except those of rank, were turned to the rear, my command being so small that I could not dispense with a single man, leaving them to be picked up by the cavalry and those in rear. Notwithstanding the exhausted condition of my men, having received orders from Lieutenant-General Hardee, I prepared at once to advance, leaving General Liddell's brigade receiving ammunition, at his request having sent my train to furnish him. I moved General Rains' brigade from the left of my division to the right, being the strongest and least cut up. He was directed to move some distance to the right, so as to take in flank the batteries posted by the enemy near the Nashville pike, at the same time that General Ector and Colonel Harper ([commanding] McNair's brigade) took them in front. General Rains met with a determined resistance, but succeeded in forcing the enemy from the woods and into the fields that lay south of their position on the Nashville pike, General Ector and Colonel Harper moving in a northeasterly direction, General Rains nearly due north. I soon discovered that my left would become engaged before my right could co-operate. I sent to correct my line, directing the men to be placed under cover and hold their ground. But before this order reached the command, General Ector came under a galling fire from infantry, sheltered in a cedar brake, and artillery. General Ector at once charged them, forcing their first line of infantry beyond their second, and their cannoneers from their guns in their front. I directed Colonel Harper (commanding McNair's brigade) to charge the batteries in his front with a like result. These two brigades were coolly firing into their second line of infantry, not 60 yards distant, notwithstanding they were enfiladed by a terrible fire from their batteries on our right. Every moment I expected to see General Rains take these batteries. I was doomed to disappointment. I was informed that General Rains fell, shot through the heart, at the moment the enemy was routed. The fall of this gallant officer and accomplished gentleman threw his brigade into confusion; also about this time General Cheatham gave some orders to a part of the brigade that tended to change their direction to their front. I now directed General Ector and Colonel Harper to fall back under cover, which was accomplished without demoralization or molestation from the enemy. As these brigades fell back, General Liddell was met in the edge of the woods, having replenished his ammunition. I directed them to form on his right. Captain Humphreys during this last contest passed through an interval in our lines and engaged the batteries on the hill on our right. The enemy turned sixteen guns upon him, but he gallantly maintained the fight until my command was under cover. Four of his guns were disabled and sent to the rear. One regiment of General Rains' brigade received orders from Lieutenant-General Hardee and was again in action.

My division had now been under fire from five to eight hours; although exhausted, the men were in good spirits. By direction of Lieutenant-General Hardee, the division was moved to the right, connecting with Lieutenant-General Polk's left.