REPORT OF MAJOR HAIRSTON.

GAINESVILLE, August 29, 1862—8, P. M.

To Colonel CHILTON, *A. A. G.:*

In obedience to General Lee's order, I started this morning, at eight o'clock, with one hundred and fifty cavalry, to go to Warrenton, "to find out if any of the enemy's forces were still in the vicinity of that place." I went from Thoroughfare to the right on a by-road, which took me into the Winchester road two miles below Warrenton, and came up to the rear of the town. I enquired of the citizens and persons I met on the way, but could not hear that any of their forces were in the vicinity of that place. They informed me that the last left yesterday morning in the direction of Gainesville and Warrenton Junction. We picked up on the way forty-six prisoners, thirty muskets and rifles, one deserter from the Stuart horse artillery, and one sutler, with his wagon and driver. I also paroled two lieutenants in Warrenton, who were too sick to travel. What shall I do with the prisoners?

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAMUEL H. HAIRSTON,

Major commanding, by order of General Lee.

NOTE.—This was made of men from every regiment in your command, with one entire company, headed by the captain, that General Lee had handled at Thoroughfare and turned over to me when he ordered me to go on the expedition.

S. H. H.

REPORT OF CAPTAIN MYERS OF SEVENTH VIRGINIA CAVALRY.

CAMP SEVENTH VIRGINIA CAVALRY,
October 25, 1862.

Colonel MUNFORD,
Commanding Robertson's Brigade:

The seventh regiment, under my charge on the 30th August last, formed the third regiment in column (the twelfth preceding it and the second being in advance) when the order was given for us to advance towards Centreville from our position on the extreme right of the infantry that day. We moved about two miles in that direction, when the command was halted a little to the right of the road we started on, and the second ordered over the hill on the right of the column. The second being soon engaged with the enemy, we were ordered to support it, the twelfth preceding the seventh regiment. When the head of our right came to the top of the hill, on the right, the enemy were drawn up in line of battle on an opposite hill, about four hundred yards distant, their line extending a considerable distance on the left. When the second and twelfth engaged the enemy, I ordered the regiment to charge, with drawn sabres, on their right flank, which the whole command obeyed with the greatest alacrity, charging upon them with shouts that made the very welkin ring and routing the entire line on our left, and by dashing on after the retreating foe, and charging another force of them that had formed on our right, in a woods, about eight hundred yards from the first line, we cut off a large number of them on our right, a portion of whom the seventh captured, and the others by the second and twelfth. After breaking, the enemy formed in the woods, we pursued them about three-quarters of a mile beyond Bull Run, when we were ordered back. On the opposite bluff of Bull Run, a portion of them, with a small piece of artillery, had formed again. They fired one round of grape, after which they all broke again and made no other stand. We captured some forty prisoners below Bull Run. The whole command did their duty nobly.

I have the honor to be,
Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
SAMUEL B. MYERS,
Captain commanding.

MAJOR HAWKS' REPORT OF CAPTURED STORES.

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Guineas Station, Feb. 6, 1862.

Lieutenant General JACKSON,
Commanding Second Army Corps:

GENERAL: The following statement of property captured by your command is as nearly complete as I can make it:

At Front Royal—Eighty-five barrels of flour.

Winchester and Martinsbug—One hundred and three cattle, 92,700 pounds gross, 14,637 pounds bacon, 6,000 pounds hard bread, 2,400 pounds sugar, 350 bushels salt.

Harper's Ferry—One thousand three hundred and fifteen pounds salt pork, 1,545 pounds salt beef, 19,267 pounds bacon, 155,954 pounds hard bread, 628 pounds rice, 4,930 pounds coffee, 209 pounds sugar, 67 pounds candles, 280 pounds soap, 9 bushels beans, 154 bushels salt, 180 gallons vinegar, 80 gallons molasses.

At McDowell nothing was captured except hard bread, which was issued to troops passing through—an extra ration.

At Winchester, Martinsburg and Harper's Ferry large amounts of supplies were carried off by division wagons, of which no report was made to me. Full rations issued to thirteen thousand of the enemy for two days at Harper's Ferry. The issue was made *before* an inventory was taken.

Very respectfully,

W. J. HAWKS,
Major and Commissary of Sub., Second Army Corps, A. N. V.

MAJOR HARMAN'S REPORT OF CAPTURED STORES.

Lieutenant General JACKSON,
Commanding Second Corps A. N. V.:

List of property captured and turned into the Chief Quartermaster Valley District, during the second and third quarters, 1862:

Ninety-four quires letter paper, 64 1-2 quires cap paper, 10 quires note paper, 3,425 envelopes, 172 steel pens, 95 bottles ink, 1 bottle red ink, 1 bottle mucilage, 65 camp stoves, 2 cooking stoves, 292 tin plates, 52 spoons, 20 tin cups, 80 table knives, 31 table forks, 12 acksp cards, 8 anvils, 1 set blacksmith's tools, 33 crow-bars, 7 viles, 575 rasps, 12 files, 31 hatchets, 15 cross-cut saws, 1 auger, 10 hammers, 3 sets carpenter's tools, 5 chests, 1 iron maul, 1 peg cutter, 233 horses, 21 mules, 19 wagons, 9 sets lead harness, 2 sets wheel harness, 87 pair traces, 13 pair artillery traces, 47 halter chains, 10 tar buckets, 61 collars, 12 saddles, 21 bridles, 27 artillery saddles, 6 artillery valises, 2 leg guards, 19 pair artillery harness, 5 breast straps, 5 breeching, 16 feed pockets, 25 wagon bolts, 350 wagon hammers, 8 wheelbarrows, 13 axes, 127 helves, 277 picks, 212 shovels, 82 spades, 50 mess pans, 71 camp kettles, 1 skillet lid, 305 pairs shoes, 2 pairs ladies' shoes, 2 pairs misses shoes, 3 pairs children's shoes, 30 oil-cloth blankets, 14 blankets, 2 hats, 2 3-4 dozen neck ties, 7 pairs suspenders, 6 handkerchiefs, 28 picked pins, 1 pulley block, 1 jack screw, 190 insulators, 134 tents, 144 buckles, 545 yards cotton cloth, 3,816 horse shoes, 14,061 pounds do., 840 pounds horse shoe nails, 50 pounds nails, 20 pounds spikes, 303 pounds rope, 200 feet picked rope, 275 pounds iron, 4 kegs grease, 1 barrel tar, 5,300 pounds leather, 1 case of oil, 29 bundles telegraph wire, 3 platform scales, 1 keg white lead.

In addition to the above, which is a list of the captured property that came into my possession, a considerable amount came into the hands of the various quartermasters of the command, which it is supposed they have reported to Richmond. A large amount of the property captured, however, was not turned into the quartermaster's department at all—the order to turn over such property not having been fully carried out, especially by the cavalry.

A very large amount of medical and ordnance stores were captured and sent off by me, for the character and amounts of which I refer you to the heads of those departments. Throughout the corps, many worn-out wagons were exchanged for good Yankee ones—the useless ones being left behind.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. HARMAN,
Major and Chief Quartermaster, Second Corps.

REPORT OF COLONEL HOKE, COMMANDING BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS TRIMBLE'S BRIGADE, Dec. 19, 1862.

Major S. HALE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant General, Ewell's Division:

MAJOR: I respectfully report that on Saturday, 13th of this month, I received orders from General Early, to form my brigade immediately behind General Hays' brigade, with my right resting upon the Richmond and Fredericksburg railroad, at Hamilton's Crossing, about four miles from Fredericksburg. I remained in this position for about two hours, under a very heavy cannonading, and lost a number of men in this place. The infantry firing at the front became quite heavy, and General Early ordered me to move my brigade by the left flank, and let my right rest upon the left of General Hays. I had scarcely gotten in this position before he ordered me to the front to the support of General Archer. I moved promptly and steadily to the front, and found General Archer had been driven back, and the enemy had occupied the woods upon the top of the hill. I soon drove them from this position, and found, upon getting to the entrenchments at the edge of the woods, that they had retreated to the railroad, in which place they had held reserves. I saw that it would not do to allow them to remain in the railroad, as that point commanded a large portion of our entrenchments at the edge of the woods, and that I would lose from their sharpshooters, so I immediately ordered a charge, and drove them from their place, killing about two hundred, and wounding a large number, one hundred of whom fell into my hands, I must have wounded quite a number of the enemy at this point who were able to make their escape, as I was immediately upon them. I also captured about three hundred prisoners. I had brought from this point about four hundred stand of arms, and left a number across the railroad. After driving them from the railroad, I followed them to the fence beyond the road, and at this point halted to see if I could go farther. While I was in this position, the main line of the enemy gave back about fifty yards, and my opinion is, that if a brigade had been upon my right we could have driven the whole line. I remained in this position for some time, to see if any other forces were coming forward, and in the meantime the enemy threw a brigade down the river road, preparatory to making an attack upon my right flank, and seeing my position would soon become a critical one, I ordered the twenty-first North Carolina and twenty-first Georgia regiments and first North Carolina battalion back to the railroad, under Lieutenant Colonel Harper, with orders to hold it to the last, and ordered the fifteenth Alabama and twelfth Georgia regiments back to the entrenchments at the edge of the woods, all of which was done effectually and promptly, and with a very slight loss. My loss in this charge and falling back, was only two men killed and about thirty wounded, most of which were very slight. Lieutenant Colonel Scott was killed

while falling back to the woods. He acted most gallantly, and did his duty nobly. I held my position in the railroad, and at the edge of the woods, until Monday morning, 15th, at which time I was relieved by Gen. D. H. Hill's troops. I cannot say too much in praise of the officers and men under my command; all did their duty nobly, and went into the fight with a spirit of determination, and it would be doing injustice to note any one particularly. Captain A. Hoffman, acting ordnance officer, was of great service to me upon the field. My tabular report of killed and wounded has been sent in. The report of the action of the battery attached to this brigade will be made by Captain Latimer, who was acting chief of artillery on that day.

Very respectfully,

R. F. HOKE,
Colonel commanding Brigade.

Official copy:

S. HALE, *Acting Assistant Adjutant General.*

REPORT OF COLONEL WALKER, COMMANDING BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS EARLY'S BRIGADE,
December 26th, 1862.

Major S. HALE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant General:

I have the honor to report the operations of Early's brigade in the battle near Fredericksburg, on the 13th instant:

We were placed in position by General Early, commanding division, in the second line of battle, supporting A. P. Hill's division. The action had not continued over half an hour, before I received an order from General Early (through Major Wilson, volunteer aid,) to advance at double-quick, as the enemy had cut their way through the first line, and were advancing. I put the brigade in motion, and met the enemy about the middle of the woods, but they fell back as we came up, and we continued to press them closely, driving them across the railroad, and following them some distance beyond into the open field. When we reached the railroad there was no support on our left, and a large column of Federal infantry were moving across the railroad, about four hundred yards to our left, and entering the woods. Fearing to advance further to our front, I drew my command back to the railroad and held that position, after detailing Lieutenant Colonel Terrill, with the thirteenth Virginia, to deploy his regiment on our left flank, and directing him to advance under cover of the timber to engage the enemy's column on our left upon the flank. This was done promptly, and Thomas' brigade, of A. P. Hill's division, engaging them, in front about the same time, they fell back in good order, but scarcely firing a gun in their retreat. The two fires told severely upon them, as the large number of dead and wounded left on that part of the field clearly showed. After this column of the enemy fell back, there was for some time no body of their troops in sight, but not deeming it prudent to give up the advantage of our position by advancing in pursuit over the open plain, I continued to hold the railroad for the remainder of the evening without any molestation from the enemy, further than by forming a fresh line of troops in sight, but out of our range, and throwing out skirmishers, who kept up a straggling fire until night. After dark, I left pickets on the railroad, and withdrew my command back into the woods about one hundred and fifty yards, and bivouacked for the night.

Early the next morning, we were relieved by Paxton's brigade and joined the division.

Our loss was one hundred and fifty-seven in killed and wounded. I cannot close without expressing my admiration for the manner in which this brigade performed its duty, and the gallantry and bravery

exhibited by both officers and men. I had no trouble in getting them to *fight*, but a good deal to get *them to stop*, when in my opinion it was imprudent to go further.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

J. A. WALKER,
Colonel commanding Brigade.

Official copy:
S. HALE, *Acting Assistant Adjutant General.*

REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL THOMAS.

HEADQUARTERS THOMAS' BRIGADE, GEN. A. P. HILL'S DIV.,
December 20, 1862.

Major R. C. MORGAN,
Assistant Adjutant General:

MAJOR: On Friday, December 12, 1862, according to orders from Major General Hill, this brigade left its camp near Mr. John Alsop's house, moved in the direction of Fredericksburg, and was directed to take position in line of battle on the military road, with orders to support General Pender, who occupied the front and left of the division. The remainder of the day and the succeeding night passed without any change in position.

About midday, of December 13th, orders were received from Major General Hill to render assistance and support to any part of the front line requiring it. Soon after which, an officer of General Lane's staff brought information that his brigade was hard pressed by overwhelming numbers. I immediately advanced my brigade down the road, being unable on account of the density of the undergrowth to advance in line, the brigade moved by the flank until near the scene of action, when the regiments were thrown into line of battle and advanced towards the enemy, who, at this time, had advanced into the woods. Their advance was checked there, and, after a stubborn resistance, this brigade charged them, driving them through the field and completely routing them. We pursued for some distance across the railroad, when, seeing no support either on the right or left, and my ammunition being reported to be well nigh exhausted, I concluded to fall back to the railroad. Forming, at this place, the front line, I determined to hold the position; at the same time, sending word to Colonel Pendleton, commanding brigade, that I was deficient in ammunition, and requesting him to be in supporting distance. The brigade bivouacked that night in the edge of the woods, throwing out pickets on the railroad, and were relieved early the next morning by Colonel Warren's brigade and was placed in reserve.

The officers and men of my command behaved with a gallantry highly commendable.

I have the honor to be, Major, your obedient servant,
EDWARD L. THOMAS,
Brigadier General commanding.

REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL J. R. JONES.

HEADQ'RS JONES' BRIGADE, Dec. 20, 1862.

To Captain TALIAFERRO,
Assistant Adjutant General:

CAPTAIN: In obedience to orders from division headquarters, I respectfully submit the following report of the part taken by my brigade in the recent battle at Fredericksburg:

I reached the ground on Friday evening, and was placed in position in the reserved line. On Saturday morning, 13th instant, I was directed to change my position to the left and farther to the front; but still occupying a portion in the reserve. My position subjected me to some annoyance from the shells of the enemy, one of which severely wounded the adjutant of the forty-second Virginia regiment. About the middle of the day the musketry opened, when I was still further advanced to within musketry range of the enemy. The front line not requiring support, I remained in this position the remainder of the day. In obedience to orders, I advanced at dawn next morning to the front, relieving Brigadier General Lane. My command moved to this position under a heavy musketry fire from the enemy's sharpshooters, in which I had one man killed and several wounded. The completeness of the victory of Saturday not being known, officers and men expected soon to be engaged with the enemy in force, and it affords me pleasure to report that all were anxious for the encounter, and manifested a feeling of disappointment as the day passed on and no signs of an advance were given by the enemy. A brisk skirmish was kept up during the day, in which I sustained a loss of thirty-seven officers and men killed and wounded. Among the former was Captain Ames, company C, twenty-first Virginia regiment, and Lieutenant Swoops, company E, twenty-first Virginia regiment, both in the faithful dischage of their duty. The fighting was necessary to keep the sharpshooters from occupying the crest which commanded our line.

Where all behaved coolly, gallantly and equally well, I can speak of none in particular. I can only say that the gallant little brigade which has fought so gallantly and lost so heavily in the great battles of the past summer and fall, was ready to do its duty and bear its part in making the shortest and most direct route to Richmond a hard road to travel.

Very respectfully,

J. R. JONES,
Brigadier General commanding.

whole line, the bravest among the brave. Just as the four regiments emerged from the neck of woods referred to, his horse was shot from under him, and, in falling, so far disabled him that thousands less ardent or determined would have felt justified in leaving the field; but limping on, he rejoined the line again in their advance towards the battery, but soon received the wound with which he fell. It is gratifying to me to be able to record that officers and men generally behaved with the courage characteristic of the southern soldier, continuing for the brigade a well deserved reputation. The report of casualties will testify how severe the fire was through which these brave men passed in driving the enemy before them. The Staunton artillery, commanded by Lieutenant A. W. Garber, (attached to this brigade,) at half-past four o'clock, was ordered to the extreme right of our lines, and was actively engaged on the plain about two hours, when the batteries of the enemy ceased firing. The officers and men behaved with coolness and gallantry. Lieutenant Garber had his horse shot from under him during the engagement, but suffered no loss of his men. I am extremely gratified to mention that by the activity of Surgeon George F. Cooper, senior surgeon of the brigade, although with limited transportation, our numerous wounded received prompt attention.

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

C. A. EVANS,
Colonel commanding Brigade.

Official copy:
S. HALE, *A. A. A. General.*

REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL PENDER.

HEADQUARTERS PENDER'S BRIGADE, Dec. 20, 1862.

Major General A. P. HILL,
Commanding Light Division:

GENERAL: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by my brigade in the fight of December 13th, before Fredericksburg:

I was placed in position Friday morning, early, on the extreme left of the division, in a skirt of wood, where we had no protection, nor could have, from the enemy's artillery. Two batteries were placed in my front; the right one commanded by Captain Davidson, who, I will here state, acted throughout with the greatest judgment, coolness and bravery. Friday was taken up by slight skirmish firing, and now and then a slight artillery duel. Saturday morning we were engaged in the same manner. In the afternoon, however, when the enemy advanced on the right, they opened a most tremendous fire of artillery upon the batteries in my front, playing upon them from the front and right, from at least four batteries. This fire was most destructive to my men. At about this time a heavy line of skirmishers advanced within range of Captain Davidson's battery and kept up a hot fire upon him. One of their balls, at this time, killed my aid, Lieutenant Sheppard, while he was very gallantly and coolly trying to rally some men who had broken on our right and were making to the rear. These skirmishers became so annoying that additional companies had to be thrown out, under the efficient Major Cole, to drive them back, which he did, and held them in check long after his ammunition had given out. Colonel McElroy, with his regiment, the sixteenth North Carolina, had been placed, early in the morning, near the railroad cut and in front of the left battery, which this day consisted of some rifle pieces, under Captain Latimer—as brave a soldier as I ever saw—to support it. He was here much exposed, being far in advance of the general line, with his left totally unprotected, but with the ravine of Deep Run to cover the movement of the enemy on his left. After the heat of the action on the right, the enemy advanced a brigade up Deep Run, throwing one regiment somewhat in advance, which so sheltered itself behind the trees as to get near enough to take an officer and fifteen men of the sixteenth prisoners, who were protecting the left flank of their regiment. This left the regiment to be raked by a fire down the railroad track. The Colonel drew his regiment back to the ditch and held his ground, until General Law sent forward two regiments to its assistance; these three then charged the enemy, driving them from the railroad cut and across the fields, to within a short distance of their batteries. Owing to a great many of Colonel McElroy's men not having cartridge-boxes, they got out of ammunition; but, getting into the ditch and dividing them, they maintained their ground. The officers and men of my brigade behaved throughout as well as I could have desired them.

In conclusion, I beg leave to commend the efficiency of first Lieutenant T. T. Kirkland, ordnance officer and acting assistant adjutant general, and Mr. John Young, volunteer aid-de-camp. These gentlemen were greatly exposed during the two days we were in advance, but were always at their post. In the death of Lieutenant Sheppard I have to lament the loss of a brave and promising young officer.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

W. D. PENDER,
Brigadier General.

LIST OF CASUALTIES IN PENDER'S BRIGADE.

Regiment.	Killed.		Wounded.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
Staff	1*	.....	.....	.....	1
Thirteenth North Carolina	.....	7	4	26	37
Sixteenth North Carolina	2	4	8	40	54
Twenty-second North Carolina	.....	1	2	42	45
Thirty-fourth North Carolina	.....	2	2	15	19
Thirty-eighth North Carolina	.....	.....	1	13	14
Grand total	3	14	17	136	170

*Lieutenant Sheppard, aid-de-camp, killed.

REPORT OF COLONEL HAMILTON, COMMANDING BRIGADE.

BIVOUAC ON RAPPAHANNOCK RIVER,
Headquarters Second Brigade, A. P. Hill's Light Division,
December 22, 1862.

Major R. C. MORGAN, *A. A. G.:*

MAJOR: In obedience to orders from division headquarters, I have the honor to forward the enclosed reports of the regimental commanders of this brigade. After the unfortunate fall of Brigadier General Maxcy Gregg, I assumed command of the second brigade. I have but little to add to my report as regimental commander of the first regiment South Carolina volunteers, beyond mentioning that, so soon as I was informed that I was in command of General Gregg's brigade, I mounted a horse standing near and rode down the lines, informing the commanders of regiments that I was in command of the brigade, and cautioning the soldiers of the brigade to remain quiet and steady under the severe fire of shells, which were falling along the line which we occupied, and I am pleased to say that their courage and steadiness were of the highest character. The brigade, except my own regiment, first South Carolina volunteers, and Orr's rifle regiment, was not engaged with the enemy, as they retired under the fire from my own regiment, no doubt accelerated by their finding themselves at the mercy of the second brigade, which had faced about, and, in an advance a few yards beyond, their entire flank would have been exposed to a severe and raking fire. Brigadier General Paxton's brigade came up after I had driven the enemy off, but I am not aware that they were engaged at all with them at or near my position. I understand that General Early's brigade, under command of Colonel Walker, passed the left of the second brigade and marched to the front; but, as I was on the right of the brigade at this time, and in thick woods, I did not see it myself. Shortly after this, by order from General A. P. Hill, I moved the brigade forward as a support to Colonel Walker's brigade, and found him occupying the line of the railroad. The enemy were drawn out in line of battle some six hundred yards distant from the railroad, but, beyond advancing their skirmishers, made no forward movement. At dark an order came from Lieutenant General Jackson, ordering an advance of the whole line. I accordingly advanced to the railroad, which I still found held by Colonel Walker's brigade, who had received no such order, as Colonel Walker informed me. Shortly after my reaching the railroad, a message was sent to me, through Colonel McGowan, fourteenth South Carolina regiment, from one of Lieutenant General Jackson's staff, countermanding the order for a general advance of the line. I accordingly marched the brigade back to the position which it had held during the day, where we bivouacked for the night.

I desire to mention the good conduct of Sergeant Pratt, company

B, Orr's regiment rifles, who had rallied a squad of his company after his regiment had been broken and driven off by the enemy, and came to me and asked me to assign him a position, which I did, on the right of my own regiment. Nothing of moment occurred after this day's (13th) engagement. The brigade suffered severely, considering that only two regiments were actually engaged with the enemy. Lists of killed and wounded, amounting to three hundred and sixty-three, have been already forwarded to you.

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

D. H. HAMILTON,

Colonel commanding Second Brigade, Light Division.

REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL ARCHER.

HEADQUARTERS ARCHER'S BRIGADE,
A. P. Hill's Light Division,
December 20, 1862.

To Major R. C. MORGAN,
Assistant Adjutant General, Light Division :

MAJOR : I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of my brigade in the battle of Fredericksburg :

On arriving from sick leave Saturday morning, I found my brigade posted in the edge of a wood before Bernard's house, overlooking the plain through which the railroad and Bowling Green turnpike pass, the former at a distance from my front of about two hundred and fifty yards, the latter of about three-quarters of a mile, my left resting where the wood extends forward to the front to a point beyond the railroad. General Lane's brigade was on my left, with an interval of about six hundred yards between us, while (as I was informed) General Gregg's brigade was immediately behind the interval, close enough to prevent my being flanked. On my right I found Lieutenant Colonel Walker, with fifteen pieces of light artillery, supported by Colonel Brockenbrough's brigade. As the fog cleared away, the enemy was seen advancing from the Bowling Green road, and a little after nine o'clock, A. M., several batteries were brought forward and placed in position about one thousand yards from us, which were fired on by some of our batteries, far off to the right, and with which they carried on a brisk exchange of shots for about an hour, occasionally throwing shell into the wood where I was posted. About half-past ten o'clock, A. M., they turned all their guns on our position, and, after thirty or forty minutes' severe shelling, their lines of infantry formed and advanced rapidly to the attack. When they had arrived near enough, I perceived them massing in front of, and entering the point of wood which I have before mentioned as projecting on my left, beyond the railroad, and immediately sent my ordnance officer, Lieutenant Lemmon, to warn General Gregg that it was time for him to move forward into the interval between Lane's and my brigade, to prevent my being flanked. Shortly after, fearing that General Gregg might be too late, I drew out the right battalion (fifth Alabama) and ordered it to the left. When the enemy in my front arrived near the railroad, my brigade opened a rapid and destructive fire upon them, which soon checked their career, and forced them to retire and take shelter in the railroad track, from which they kept up a desultory fire upon our line. In the meantime, the column which had entered the point of wood on my left succeeded in passing round my left flank and attacked the nineteenth Georgia and fourteenth Tennessee in rear and flank. These regiments were compelled to retire, leaving about

one hundred and sixty prisoners in the enemy's hands. The greater part of the seventh Tennessee also, seeing the regiments on their left give way and hearing the cry that the enemy was in their rear, left the trenches in disorder. The first Tennessee, together with Lieutenants Timberlake, Foster, Wilmouth and Baird, of the seventh Tennessee, and a portion of the latter regiment, held its ground gallantly, and, after its ammunition was exhausted, charged, under Lieutenant Col. George, (Col. Turney having been severely wounded early in the action,) across the railroad track, with Colonel Hoke's brigade, of Early's division, and returned to its original position when the charge was over.

The fifth Alabama battalion, which I had sent from the right to aid in opposing the enemy on the left, discharged their duty faithfully, first under Major Vandegraff, and, after he was wounded, under Captain Stewart.

After sending Lieutenant Lemmon, I also sent my aid de-camp, Lieutenant Thomas, to explain the urgency of the case to General Gregg, and to bring down another brigade in support of my front, which, although not then pressed in front, had nearly exhausted its ammunition.

General Gregg's and Lawton's brigades and the fifth Alabama battalion drove back the enemy, who had passed my flank, and Colonel Hoke, in command of Trimble's brigade, came down to the edge of the wood, my original position, which I still maintained with the right of my brigade, but with empty rifles and cartridge-boxes. The whole line then charged over the field beyond the railroad. When it returned to the edge of the wood I drew back my troops about thirty yards, reformed my brigade and remained in support of the front line, (Hoke's brigade, which had relieved me in the trenches.)

I take pleasure in reporting that the attack along my whole front was gallantly and successfully repelled by my brigade. No enemy ever arrived within fifty yards of my front, and even after my left was broken by the attack in rear and flank, the enemy in front had been so sharply repulsed that he did not venture to come again. Officers and men generally acted with gallantry.

Lieutenant Z. C. Gunn, fourteenth Tennessee, fell in the most gallant discharge of his duty.

Lieutenant Colonel Hutchins, of the nineteenth Georgia, mentions particularly the good conduct of Captain Mabry, Lieutenants W. H. Johnson and M. Edwards, Sergeant Shell and Corporal Rogan.

Lieutenants O. H. Thomas and George Lemmon, of my staff, rendered me gallant and efficient service throughout the action.

My loss in the action was forty killed, two hundred and eleven wounded, and one hundred and sixty-six missing, supposed to have been captured.

Among the wounded were Colonel Turney, Lieutenant Colonel George and Major Buchanan, of the first Tennessee; Captain Turney, the senior captain of the first Tennessee; Major Neil, of the nineteenth Georgia; Major Vandegraff, of the fifth Alabama bat-

talion, and Mr. Frank Wotten, volunteer aid on my staff, the latter supposed to be mortally wounded.

Respectfully your obedient servant,

J. L. ARCHER,

Brigadier General commanding Brigade.

REPORT OF BRIGADIER GENERAL LANE.

HEADQUARTERS LANE'S BRIGADE,
December 23, 1862.

Major R. C. MORGAN,
Assistant Adjutant General:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of my brigade in the late engagement before Fredericksburg:

At half past six o'clock, on the morning of the 12th, we left our bivouac and took the position assigned us on the railroad, my right being about two hundred and fifty yards to the left of the small piece of woods beyond the track, and my left resting on a dirt road, which crosses the railroad near the point where it maket a bend. Several batteries were to my left and rear, and General Pender some distance further back, my left nearly covering his right. When I had made this disposition of my command I rode to the right of General Archer's brigade, which was posted in the woods some four hundred yards from the railroad, and informed Colonel Turney, who was at that time commanding, that there was an open space between us of about six hundred yards. I also informed General Gregg of this opening; his command, which was to have been my support, being on the military road opposite this opening, and some five or six hundred yards from the railroad. I subsequently met General A. P. Hill, and spoke to him of our relative positions.

Nothing of interest occurred on Friday and Friday night. Saturday morning, I ordered the seventh and eighteenth regiments beyond the railroad to support three batteries, which had been placed on a hill immediately in their front. Lieutenant Colonel Hill at once approached the captain of one of these batteries, told him he would insure its safety against any attempt on the part of the enemy to capture it, and that he must let him know when he wished him to move to the front. As soon as the fog lifted, heavy skirmishing commenced along my whole line, and the enemy were seen advancing. Our skirmishers, with the exception of Captain Turner's company, on the left, fell back. The batteries, just alluded to, then opened, with telling effect, and checked their advance. During this firing Captain Turner withdrew his company, as his men were suffering, and rejoined his regiment. Several pieces of the artillery, after firing a few rounds, hurried from the field, saying they were "choked." On intimation, from one of the captains of the batteries, Lieutenant Colonel Hill promptly moved his regiment to the crest of the hill in front of the enemy and delivered a volley at the sharpshooters, who were in range; the artillery all limbering up and driving to the rear. The seventh and eighteenth both suffered from the enemy's artillery fire, and, at times, from their sharpshooters. About two hours later the enemy advanced in strong force across the open field to the right of my

front. Colonel Barber, his regiment being on the right, informed me, through Adjutant Oates, of the advance, and wished to know what he must do should he be flanked. On being ordered to hold his position as long as possible, he deflected his three right companies, and formed them to the rear at right angles to the track. I at once sent my courier, Mr. Shepperd, to inform General A. P. Hill that the enemy were advancing in force upon the opening, Captain Hawks having been previously sent to apprize him that their skirmishers were in front of the same. Eight regiments were seen to pass to my right, and another to move "by the right flank by file left" between the same body of woods and the fence beyond the track. This last regiment then faced by the rear rank and opened fire upon my right. The three right companies of the thirty-seventh became hotly engaged, and General Gregg's command was soon after encountered on the military road. Although our right was turned by such a large force, our position was deemed too important to be given up without a blow, and nobly did both officers and men await the approach of another large force along our entire front. As this force was concealed from the thirty-third, eighteenth and seventh regiments by the hill, about forty yards beyond the track, they were cautioned to reserve their fire. The twenty-eighth and thirty-seventh, however, had open, level ground in their front, and, when the enemy had gotten within one hundred and fifty yards of our line, they opened a terific and deadly fire upon them, repulsing their first and second lines, and checking the third. These two regiments were subjected not only to a direct, but to right and left oblique fires, that portion of the enemy's force behind the hill, nearest the twenty-eighth, firing upon them. As soon as the right of my command became engaged with such an overwhelming force, I despatched Captain Hawks to General Gregg for reinforcements, with instructions, if he was unable to send them, to apply to General Thomas, or anybody else whom he might see in command of troops, for assistance. My whole command held their ground until the twenty-eighth and thirty-seventh had fired away not only their own ammunition, but that of their dead and wounded, which, in some cases, was handed to them by their officers. When these two regiments had ceased firing, the enemy, in column, doubled on the centre, bore down in mass from behind the hill upon the left of the twenty-eighth and right of the thirty-third, and the "power of numbers forced them entirely across the railroad." The twenty-eighth and thirty-seventh, being flanked right and left, fell back in an orderly manner, and were resupplied with ammunition. A well directed volley from the thirty-third checked the enemy for a time, and Colonel Avery ordered a charge, but, being unsupported on his right, he countermanded the order and withdrew his regiment into the woods, about seventy-five yards from the railroad. The eighteenth regiment then fell back about one hundred yards, the right companies firing into the foe until he reached the woods in the pursuit. The seventh, being on the left, fell back about fifty yards, in perfect order. During the greater part of the engagement the enemy's artillery played upon the woods in our rear. While awaiting reinforcements, I sent my

aid, Lieutenant Lane, to the left, to tell Lieutenant Colonel Hill, if he could possibly be spared, to come to the assistance of my right, as it was heavily pressed. The right, however, was forced to fall back before the order could be delivered. General Thomas came to my assistance, but too late to save my line. He encountered the enemy in the edge of the woods, drove them back, and, with the eighteenth and seventh regiments of my brigade on his left, chased them to their first position. The thirty-third, in accordance with orders, held the position in the woods to which it had fallen back, until I could move up the twenty-eighth and thirty-seventh, when all again resumed their positions on the railroad. That night the whole brigade was aligned on the track, and skirmishers thrown forward, preparatory to a general advance. After this order was countermanded, my command rested on their arms until morning, when, having already been on duty upwards of forty-eight hours, there was heavy skirmishing along my whole front—a number of men being killed and wounded. We formed a portion of the second line on Monday, and, as we occupied an exposed position, the men soon constructed a very good temporary breastworks of logs, brush and dirt, behind which they rested until Tuesday morning, when it was ascertained that the enemy had all recrossed the Rappahannock.

I cannot speak in too high terms of the gallantry of Colonels Avery, Barber, Lowe and Purdie, and Lieutenant Colonel Hill. They all commanded their regiments with bravery, and to my entire satisfaction. Colonel Purdie was slightly wounded. Colonel Barber received a painful wound in the neck, which, for a time, paralyzed his right arm, but he reported for duty again on Tuesday.

The other officers, both field and company, generally discharged their duties well.

Colonel Avery alludes in high terms to the efficiency of Lieutenant Colonel Cowan. Colonel Purdie, in his report, makes an unenviable allusion to one of his officers, name not given.

The Yankee wretches dragged Lieutenant J. W. Peters, company C, thirty-seventh regiment, some distance by the legs, after he had been wounded in the head and leg.

The men of the twenty-eighth and thirty-seventh fought like brave men, long and well, while those of the other regiments calmly held their positions under a heavy artillery fire, one of the most trying positions in which soldiers can be placed.

I cannot refrain making special allusion to our conscripts, many of whom were under fire for the first time. They proved themselves worthy accessions to a brigade which has borne itself well in all the battles of the last eight months.

Captain F. T. Hawks, the assistant adjutant general, Lieutenant Oscar Lane, my aid, and private James W. Shepperd, my courier, were of great assistance to me throughout the fight, often carrying orders and messages for me under the hottest fire.

Our ambulance corps was very efficient and removed our wounded rapidly. Lieutenant James A. Bryan, ordnance officer, was untiring in his exertions to keep the command supplied with ammunition.

Our loss in officers was two killed, twenty-five wounded and five prisoners; enlisted men, sixty killed, two hundred and thirty-two wounded, one hundred and eighty-three prisoners and twenty-eight missing—an aggregate of six hundred and twenty-five.

Respectfully,

JAMES H. LANE,
Brigadier General.

REPORT OF COLONEL BROCKENBROUGH, COMMANDING BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS FIELD'S BRIGADE,
December 21, 1862.

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the action of this brigade in the late battle near Fredericksburg:

Stationed upon the extreme right of our division, we remained in this position until the concentrated forces of the enemy passed through a gap in, and reached the rear of, our lines. There being no enemy in our immediate front, and reinforcements being called for, I withdrew my command from its first position and hurried as rapidly as possible to the point indicated. We moved up by the left flank, and so urgent and repeated were the calls for reinforcements that my two leading regiments, viz: forty-seventh Virginia, Colonel Mayo, and the twenty-second battalion, Colonel Tayloe, the only regiments actively engaged, advanced in a run, separated themselves from the brigade, passed well to the left and encountered the enemy in rear of our front lines, about midway between Generals Archer and Lane. Firing one volley into their left flank and charging them with a yell, they fled precipitately to the shelter of the railroad cut. Here they rallied and made a short stand, but, being joined by a Georgia brigade, (Lawton's, I believe,) we made a second charge, which drove them from the railroad. Here the men were ordered to halt, but such was their impetuosity that much the larger portion of these two regiments advanced to the position which had been occupied by two of the enemy's batteries, which they found deserted. Being unsupported, they were, of course, compelled to retreat, which was done under the most galling fire of grape, canister and minie balls.

The fact that only two regiments were actively engaged was accidental and unavoidable. The woods through which we passed being dense and filled with troops, the rapid run of the leading regiments soon separated them from the brigade, and, while they passed well around to the left, the remainder of the brigade only marched by direct line to General Archer's left, who was said to have been flanked. Driving the enemy from the woods was a task of short duration, and the troops engaged were completely successful in driving back the enemy before the remaining regiments, a few minutes behind them, could come to their assistance.

During the fight several of the enemy's mounted officers were shot down, and the colors of one regiment were seen to fall four times.

It affords me much pleasure to mention the good conduct of Colonels Mayo and Tayloe and the officers and men under their command.

The valor and daring of the men was unprecedented. Many of them were fighting in sight of their homes and seemed determined to drive back the enemy at all hazards.

Our loss was considerable, being about twenty per cent. of the troops actively engaged.

Very respectfully, your obedient obedient servant,

J. M. BROCKENBROUGH,

Colonel commanding Brigade.