Cemetery Ridge, Culp’s Hill, and East Cemetery Hill

Source Packet

Gettysburg, Part 6 of 10 · Day 2, evening of July 2, 1863

The Official Records reports cited in the article, and the revised casualty return that several of them refer to, reproduced from page scans of the printed volumes.

The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, Series I, Volume 27, Parts 1 and 2 (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1889).

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Report of Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, U.S. Army, commanding Army of the Potomac

Dated	October 1, 1863
Source	Official Records, Series I, Vol. 27, Part 1, Report No. 6
Printed pages	116–117
Packet pages	5–6

About this report

The army commander’s report. P. 116 gives his account of the Third Corps fight and the reinforcement of the left, and ends with the 8 p.m. attack on the Eleventh Corps. P. 117 continues with that attack and with the Twelfth Corps’s absence from its works while the left was reinforced.

About this excerpt

The report begins on p. 114; pp. 114–115 and 118 onward are not reproduced (pp. 114–116 are in the Part 5 packet).

Meade’s later letters on the credit due the Twelfth Corps, Part 1, pp. 763–770, are not reproduced.

Twelfth Corps resting on a small stream at a point where it crossed the Baltimore pike, and which formed, on the right flank of the Twelfth, something of an obstacle. The Cemetery Ridge extended in a westerly and southerly direction, gradually diminishing in elevation until it came to a very prominent ridge called Round Top, running east and west. The Second and Third Corps were directed to occupy the continuation of the Cemetery Ridge on the left of the Eleventh Corps. The Fifth Corps, pending the arrival of the Sixth, was held in reserve.

While these dispositions were being made, the enemy was massing his troops on an exterior ridge, distant from the line occupied by us from 1 mile to 1½ miles.

At 2 p. m. the Sixth Corps arrived, after a march of 32 miles, accomplished from 9 p. m. the day previous. On its arrival being reported, I immediately directed the Fifth Corps to move over to our extreme left, and the Sixth to occupy its place as a reserve for the right.

About 3 p. m. I rode out to the extreme left, to await the arrival of the Fifth Corps and to post it, when I found that Major-General Sickles, commanding the Third Corps, not fully apprehending the instructions in regard to the position to be occupied, had advanced, or rather was in the act of advancing, his corps some half a mile or three-quarters of a mile in front of the line of the Second Corps, on the prolongation of which it was designed his corps should rest. Having found Major-General Sickles, I was explaining to him that he was too far in advance, and discussing with him the propriety of withdrawing, when the enemy opened on him with several batteries in his front and on his flank, and immediately brought forward columns of infantry and made a most vigorous assault. The Third Corps sustained the shock most heroically. Troops from the Second Corps were immediately sent by Major-General Hancock to cover the right flank of the Third Corps, and soon after the assault commenced the Fifth Corps most fortunately arrived and took position on the left of the Third, Major-General Sykes, commanding, immediately sending a force to occupy the Round Top Ridge, where a most furious contest was maintained, the enemy making desperate but unsuccessful efforts to secure it.

Notwithstanding the stubborn resistance of the Third Corps, under Major-General Birney (Major-General Sickles having been wounded early in the action), the superiority of numbers of the enemy enabling him to outflank the corps in its advanced position, General Birney was compelled to fall back and reform behind the line originally designed to be held.

In the meantime, perceiving the great exertions of the enemy, the Sixth Corps, Major-General Sedgwick, and part of the First Corps (to the command of which I had assigned Major-General Newton), particularly Lockwood's Maryland brigade,* together with detachments from the Second Corps, were all brought up at different periods, and succeeded, together with the gallant resistance of the Fifth Corps, in checking and finally repulsing the assault of the enemy, who retired in confusion and disorder about sunset, and ceased any further efforts on the extreme left.† An assault was, however, made about 8 p. m. on the Eleventh Corps from the left of the town, which

* See Williams to Slocum, December 26, 1863, p. 765.
† See Meade to Halleck, February 25, 1864, p. 120.

was repelled, with the assistance of troops from the Second and First Corps.

During the heavy assault upon our extreme left, portions of the Twelfth Corps were sent as re-enforcements. During their absence, the line on the extreme right was held by a very much reduced force. This was taken advantage of by the enemy, who, during the absence of Geary's division of the Twelfth Corps, advanced and occupied a part of his line.*

On the morning of the 3d, General Geary (having returned during the night) attacked at early dawn the enemy, and succeeded in driving him back and reoccupying his former position. A spirited contest was, however, maintained all the morning along this part of the line, General Geary, re-enforced by Wheaton's brigade, Sixth Corps, maintaining his position, and inflicting very severe losses on the enemy.*

With this exception, the quiet of the lines remained undisturbed till 1 p. m. on the 3d, when the enemy opened from over one hundred and twenty-five guns, playing upon our center and left. This cannonade continued for over two hours, when our guns, in obedience to my orders, failing to make any reply, the enemy ceased firing, and soon his masses of infantry became visible, forming for an assault on our left and left center. The assault was made with great firmness, directed principally against the point occupied by the Second Corps, and was repelled with equal firmness by the troops of that corps, supported by Doubleday's division and Stannard's brigade of the First Corps. During the assault, both Major-General Hancock, commanding the left center, and Brigadier-General Gibbon, commanding Second Corps, were severely wounded. This terminated the battle, the enemy retiring to his lines, leaving the field strewn with his dead and wounded, and numerous prisoners in our hands.

Buford's division of cavalry, after its arduous service at Gettysburg on the 1st, was on the 2d sent to Westminster to refit and guard our trains. Kilpatrick's division, that on the 29th, 30th, and 1st had been successfully engaging the enemy's cavalry, was on the 3d sent on our extreme left, on the Emmitsburg road, where good service was rendered in assaulting the enemy's line and occupying his attention. At the same time, General Gregg was engaged with the enemy on our extreme right, having passed across the Baltimore pike and Bonaughtown road, and boldly attacked the enemy's left and rear.

On the morning of the 4th, reconnaissances developed that the enemy had drawn back his left flank, but maintained his position in front of our left, apparently assuming a new line parallel to the mountains.

On the morning of the 5th, it was ascertained the enemy was in full retreat by the Fairfield and Cashtown roads. The Sixth Corps was immediately sent in pursuit on the Fairfield road, and the cavalry on the Cashtown road and by the Emmitsburg and Monterey Passes.

July 5 and 6 were employed in succoring the wounded and burying the dead. Major-General Sedgwick, commanding the Sixth Corps, having pushed the pursuit of the enemy as far as the Fairfield Pass, in the mountains, and reporting that the pass was a very strong one, in which a small force of the enemy could hold in check and delay for a considerable time any pursuing force, I determined to follow the enemy by a flank movement, and, accordingly, leaving McIn-

* See Meade to Halleck, February 25, 1864, p. 120.

DOCUMENT 2 OF 21 · ARMY AND CORPS LEVEL

Report of Gen. Robert E. Lee, C.S. Army, commanding Army of Northern Virginia

Dated	January 1864
Source	Official Records, Series I, Vol. 27, Part 2, pp. 313–325 (report of the campaign)
Printed pages	318–319
Packet pages	8–9

About this report

Lee’s summary of the fighting on the Confederate left on July 2, including Ewell’s attacks on the Union right.

About this excerpt

The report begins on p. 313; the rest is not reproduced.

overwhelming numbers of fresh troops. General Ewell was, therefore, instructed to carry the hill occupied by the enemy, if he found it practicable, but to avoid a general engagement until the arrival of the other divisions of the army, which were ordered to hasten forward. He decided to await Johnson's division, which had marched from Carlisle by the road west of the mountains to guard the trains of his corps, and consequently did not reach Gettysburg until a late hour.

In the meantime the enemy occupied the point which General Ewell designed to seize, but in what force could not be ascertained, owing to the darkness. An intercepted dispatch showed that another corps had halted that afternoon 4 miles from Gettysburg. Under these circumstances, it was decided not to attack until the arrival of Longstreet, two of whose divisions (those of Hood and McLaws) encamped about 4 miles in the rear during the night. Anderson's division of Hill's corps came up after the engagement.

It had not been intended to deliver a general battle so far from our base unless attacked, but coming unexpectedly upon the whole Federal Army, to withdraw through the mountains with our extensive trains would have been difficult and dangerous. At the same time we were unable to await an attack, as the country was unfavorable for collecting supplies in the presence of the enemy, who could restrain our foraging parties by holding the mountain passes with local and other troops. A battle had, therefore, become in a measure unavoidable, and the success already gained gave hope of a favorable issue.

The enemy occupied a strong position, with his right upon two commanding elevations adjacent to each other, one southeast and the other, known as Cemetery Hill, immediately south of the town, which lay at its base. His line extended thence upon the high ground along the Emmitsburg road, with a steep ridge in rear, which was also occupied. This ridge was difficult of ascent, particularly the two hills above mentioned as forming its northern extremity, and a third at the other end, on which the enemy's left rested. Numerous stone and rail fences along the slope served to afford protection to his troops and impede our advance. In his front, the ground was undulating and generally open for about three-quarters of a mile.

General Ewell's corps constituted our left, Johnson's division being opposite the height adjoining Cemetery Hill, Early's in the center, in front of the north face of the latter, and Rodes upon his right. Hill's corps faced the west side of Cemetery Hill, and extended nearly parallel to the Emmitsburg road, making an angle with Ewell's. Pender's division formed his left, Anderson's his right, Heth's, under Brigadier-General Pettigrew, being in reserve. His artillery, under Colonel [R. L.] Walker, was posted in eligible positions along his line.

It was determined to make the principal attack upon the enemy's left, and endeavor to gain a position from which it was thought that our artillery could be brought to bear with effect. Longstreet was directed to place the divisions of McLaws and Hood on the right of Hill, partially enveloping the enemy's left, which he was to drive in.

General Hill was ordered to threaten the enemy's center, to prevent re-enforcements being drawn to either wing, and co-operate with his right division in Longstreet's attack.

General Ewell was instructed to make a simultaneous demonstra-

tion upon the enemy's right, to be converted into a real attack should opportunity offer.

About 4 p. m. Longstreet's batteries opened, and soon afterward Hood's division, on the extreme right, moved to the attack. McLaws followed somewhat later, four of Anderson's brigades, those of Wilcox, Perry, [A. R.] Wright, and Posey supporting him on the left, in the order named. The enemy was soon driven from his position on the Emmitsburg road to the cover of a ravine and a line of stone fences at the foot of the ridge in his rear. He was dislodged from these after a severe struggle, and retired up the ridge, leaving a number of his batteries in our possession. Wilcox's and Wright's brigades advanced with great gallantry, breaking successive lines of the enemy's infantry, and compelling him to abandon much of his artillery. Wilcox reached the foot and Wright gained the crest of the ridge itself, driving the enemy down the opposite side; but having become separated from McLaws and gone beyond the other two brigades of the division, they were attacked in front and on both flanks, and compelled to retire, being unable to bring off any of the captured artillery. McLaws' left also fell back, and, it being now nearly dark, General Longstreet determined to await the arrival of General Pickett. He disposed his command to hold the ground gained on the right, withdrawing his left to the first position from which the enemy had been driven.

Four pieces of artillery, several hundred prisoners, and two regimental flags were taken. As soon as the engagement began on our right, General Johnson opened with his artillery, and about two hours later advanced up the hill next to Cemetery Hill with three brigades, the fourth being detained by a demonstration on his left. Soon afterward, General Early attacked Cemetery Hill with two brigades, supported by a third, the fourth having been previously detached. The enemy had greatly increased by earthworks the strength of the positions assailed by Johnson and Early.

The troops of the former moved steadily up the steep and rugged ascent, under a heavy fire, driving the enemy into his intrenchments, part of which was carried by Steuart's brigade, and a number of prisoners taken. The contest was continued to a late hour, but without further advantage. On Cemetery Hill, the attack by Early's leading brigades—those of Hays and Hoke, under Colonel [I. E.] Avery—was made with vigor. Two lines of the enemy's infantry were dislodged from the cover of some stone and board fences on the side of the ascent, and driven back into the works on the crest, into which our troops forced their way, and seized several pieces of artillery.

A heavy force advanced against their right, which was without support, and they were compelled to retire, bringing with them about 100 prisoners and four stand of colors. General Ewell had directed General Rodes to attack in concert with Early, covering his right, and had requested Brigadier-General Lane, then commanding Pender's division, to co-operate on the right of Rodes. When the time to attack arrived, General Rodes, not having his troops in position, was unprepared to co-operate with General Early, and before he could get in readiness the latter had been obliged to retire for want of the expected support on his right. General Lane was prepared to give the assistance required of him, and so informed General Rodes, but the latter deemed it useless to advance after the failure of Early's attack.

DOCUMENT 3 OF 21 · ARMY AND CORPS LEVEL

Report of Lieut. Gen. Richard S. Ewell, C.S. Army, commanding Second Corps

Dated	Not dated on the pages reproduced
Source	Official Records, Series I, Vol. 27, Part 2, Report No. 467
Printed pages	446–447
Packet pages	11–12

About this report

The Second Corps commander’s report. It covers Johnson’s attack on Culp’s Hill and Early’s attack on East Cemetery Hill on the evening of July 2.

About this excerpt

The report begins on p. 439; pp. 439–445 and 448 onward are not reproduced. P. 448 begins the account of July 3, which belongs to Part 7.

I received orders soon after dark to draw my corps to the right, in case it could not be used to advantage where it was; that the commanding general thought from the nature of the ground that the position for attack was a good one on that side. I represented to the commanding general that the hill above referred to was unoccupied by the enemy, as reported by Lieutenants Turner and Early, who had gone upon it, and that it commanded their position and made it untenable, so far as I could judge.

He decided to let me remain, and on my return to my headquarters, after 12 o'clock at night, I sent orders to Johnson by Lieut. T. T. Turner, aide-de-camp, to take possession of this hill, if he had not already done so. General Johnson stated in reply to this order, that after forming his line of battle this side of the wooded hill in question, he had sent a reconnoitering party to the hill, with orders to report as to the position of the enemy in reference to it. This party, on nearing the summit, was met by a superior force of the enemy, which succeeded in capturing a portion of the reconnoitering party, the rest of it making its escape. During this conversation with General Johnson, one man arrived, bringing a dispatch, dated at 12 midnight, and taken from a Federal courier making his way from General Sykes to General Slocum, in which the former stated that his corps was then halted 4 miles from Gettysburg, and he would resume his march at 4 a. m. Lieutenant Turner brought this dispatch to my headquarters, and at the same time stated that General Johnson would refrain from attacking the position until I had received notice of the fact that the enemy were in possession of the hill, and had sent him further orders. Day was now breaking, and it was too late for any change of place.

Meantime orders had come from the general commanding for me to delay my attack until I heard General Longstreet's guns open on the right. Lieutenant Turner at once returned to General Johnson, and delivered these instructions, directing him to be ready to attack, Early being already in line on the left and Rodes on the right of the main street of the town, Rodes' line extending out on the Fairfield road.

Early in the morning, I received a communication from the commanding general, the tenor of which was that he intended the main attack to be made by the First Corps, on our right, and wished me, as soon as their guns opened, to make a diversion in their favor, to be converted into a real attack if an opportunity offered.

I made the necessary preparations, and about 5 p. m., when General Longstreet's guns opened, General Johnson commenced a heavy cannonade from Andrews' battalion and [Archibald] Graham's battery, the whole under Major [J. W.] Latimer, against the Cemetery Hill.

After an hour's firing, finding that his guns were overpowered by the greater number and superior position of the enemy's batteries, Major Latimer withdrew all but one battery, which he kept to repel any infantry advance. While with this battery, this gallant young officer received, from almost the last shell fired, the wound which has since resulted in his death. Colonel Brown says justly of that calamity, "No greater loss could have befallen the artillery of this corps." Major Latimer served with me from March, 1862, to the second battle of Manassas (August 28 to 30, 1862). I was particularly struck at Winchester, May 25, 1862, his first warm engagement, by his coolness, self-possession, and bravery under a very heavy artillery

fire, showing when most needed the full possession of all his faculties. Though not twenty-one when he fell, his soldierly qualities had impressed me as deeply as those of any officer in my command.

Immediately after the artillery firing ceased, which was just before sundown, General Johnson ordered forward his division to attack the wooded hill in his front, and about dusk the attack was made. The enemy were found strongly intrenched on the side of a very steep mountain, beyond a creek with steep banks, only passable here and there. Brig. Gen. J. M. Jones was wounded soon after the attack began, and his brigade, which was on the right with Nicholls' (Louisiana) brigade (under Colonel Williams), was forced back, but Steuart, on the left, took part of the enemy's breastworks, and held them till ordered out at noon next day.

As soon as information reached him that Johnson's attack had commenced, General Early, who held the center of my corps, moved Hays' and Hoke's brigades forward against the Cemetery Hill. Charging over a hill into a ravine, they broke a line of the enemy's infantry posted behind a stone wall, and advanced up the steep face of another hill, over two lines of breastworks. These brigades captured several batteries of artillery and held them until, finding that no attack was made on the right, and that heavy masses of the enemy were advancing against their front and flank, they reluctantly fell back, bringing away 75 to 100 prisoners and four stand of captured colors. Major-General Rodes did not advance, for reasons given in in his report.

Before beginning my advance, I had sent a staff officer to the division of the Third Corps, on my right, which proved to be General Pender's, to find out what they were to do. He reported the division under command of General Lane, who succeeded Pender, wounded, and who sent word back that the only orders he had received from General Pender were that he was to attack if a favorable opportunity presented. I then wrote to him (it being too late to communicate with the corps commander) that I was about attacking with my corps, and requested that he would co-operate. To this I received no answer, nor do I believe that any advance was made. The want of co-operation on the right made it more difficult for Rodes' division to attack, though, had it been otherwise, I have every reason to believe, from the eminent success attending the assault of Hays and Avery, that the enemy's lines would have been carried.

I was ordered to renew my attack at daylight Friday morning, and as Johnson's position was the only one affording hopes of doing this to advantage, he was re-enforced by Smith's brigade, of Early's division, and Daniel's and Rodes' (old) brigades, of Rodes' division. Just before the time fixed for General Johnson to advance, the enemy attacked him, to regain the works captured by Steuart the evening before. They were repulsed with very heavy loss, and he attacked in turn, pushing the enemy almost to the top of the mountain, where the precipitous nature of the hill and an abatis of logs and stones, with a very heavy work on the crest of the hill, stopped his farther advance.

Half an hour after Johnson attacked, and when too late to recall him, I received notice that Longstreet would not attack until 10 o'clock; but, as it turned out, his attack was delayed till after 2 o'clock. In Johnson's attack, the enemy abandoned a portion of their works in disorder, and, as they ran across an open space to another work, were exposed to the fire of Daniel's brigade at 60 or 70 yards.

Report of Maj. Gen. Winfield S. Hancock, U.S. Army, commanding Second Army Corps

Dated	Not dated
Source	Official Records, Series I, Vol. 27, Part 1, Report No. 76
Printed pages	370–372
Packet pages	14–16

About this report

P. 370 describes the Third Corps's advanced position and Hancock's assumption of command of that corps when Sickles was wounded. P. 371 describes the 1st Minnesota's charge on a Confederate regiment and the regiment's loss, which he gives as "three-fourths of the officers and men engaged." P. 372 tells of sending Carroll's brigade to Howard near dark.

About this excerpt

Hancock's report begins on p. 367; pp. 367–369 and 373–377 are not reproduced. Pp. 373–377 cover July 3. Hancock's figure for the regiment's loss (p. 371) differs from Capt. Coates's (p. 425); both are in this packet.

return until after dark, when I ordered it to the position it held in the morning.

The Third Corps having advanced far beyond the original line of battle, and Caldwell's division having been detached, a large interval remained on the left of the Second Division without troops. To remedy this in part, General Gibbon extended his line to the left by adding to it his reserve brigade. The right of the Third Corps rested near the brick house, near the Emmitsburg road, a considerable distance in front of Gibbon's division, the general direction of the line being parallel to that road. To strengthen the point between the right of the Third Corps and his left, General Gibbon sent two regiments of General Harrow's brigade (the Fifteenth Massachusetts, Col. G. H. Ward, and the Eighty-second New York Volunteers, Colonel Huston) to occupy a crest on the right of the brick house, which position was considerably strengthened by a slight breastwork of such materials as the adjoining fences afforded. Brown's battery (B, First Rhode Island) occupied a position in rear and somewhat to the left of these two regiments.

Owing to the advanced position of the Third Corps, a very considerable gap was made between its left and the right of the Fifth Corps, through which the column of the enemy which turned the right flank of Caldwell's division appears to have passed.

About this time, General Meade informed me that General Sickles had been wounded, and directed me to assume command of the Third Corps in addition to that of my own. By this arrangement, the immediate command of the Second Corps devolved again upon General Gibbon, and that of the Third upon General Birney. I had just before received an order from General Meade to send a brigade to the assistance of General Birney (whose division had occupied the extreme left of Sickles' corps), and to send two regiments to General Humphreys, who commanded the right of that corps. I immediately led the brigade (Third Brigade, Third Division, under Colonel Willard) intended for General Birney toward the left of the original line of battle of the Third Corps, and was about proceeding with it to the front, when I encountered General Birney, who informed me that his troops had all been driven to the rear, and had left the position to which I was moving. General Birney proceeded to the rear to collect his command. General Humphreys' small command yet remained in position. The force which had turned General Caldwell's right and driven the left of the Third Corps now approached the line of battle as originally established. Humphreys' command was forced back, contesting the ground stubbornly. The two regiments sent from the Second Division to General Humphreys' assistance (Nineteenth Massachusetts, Colonel Devereux, and Forty-second New York, Colonel Mallon, both under command of Colonel Mallon) had not arrived on the ground, though under musketry fire, when, observing that General Humphreys' command was rapidly retiring, they formed line of battle, delivered a few volleys at the advancing enemy, and themselves retired in good order to their position in line in the Second Corps, having suffered a heavy loss. The enemy pushed them so closely that a number of prisoners were captured by these regiments. The two regiments and battery referred to above as having been advanced by General Gibbon to the vicinity of the brick house did excellent service in protecting the flank of General Humphreys' command and in preventing it from being cut off from the line of battle. The enemy's attack being on their flank,

the two regiments were, however, forced to retire, having met with heavy losses, Colonels Ward and Huston both being killed. One gun of the battery they had supported, and which was served to the last by the cannoneers, fell into the hands of the enemy temporarily.

I directed General Humphreys to form his command on the ground from which General Caldwell had moved to the support of the Third Corps, which was promptly done. The number of his troops collected was, however, very small, scarcely equal to an ordinary battalion, but with many colors, this small command being composed of the fragments of many shattered regiments. Three guns of one of its batteries had been left on the field, owing to the losses of horses and men. I established Colonel Willard's brigade at the point through which General Birney's division had retired, and fronting the approach of the enemy, who were pressing vigorously on. There were no other troops on its right or left, and the brigade soon became engaged, losing its commander, Colonel Willard, and many officers and men,

At this juncture, re-enforcements, for which I had previously sent to General Meade by a staff officer, consisting of a part of General Newton's corps (Doubleday's division and the remnant of Robinson's), arrived, established themselves on the line, meeting the enemy at once, and doing good execution.

Proceeding along the line, I met a regiment of the enemy, the head of whose column was about passing through an unprotected interval in our line. A fringe of undergrowth in front of the line offered facilities for it to approach very close to our lines without being observed. It was advancing firing, and had already twice wounded my aide, Captain Miller. The First Minnesota Regiment coming up at this moment, charged the rebel regiment in handsome style, capturing its colors, and driving it back in disorder.

I cannot speak too highly of this regiment and its commander in its attack, as well as in its subsequent advance against the enemy, in which it lost three-fourths of the officers and men engaged. One of the regiments of the Vermont Brigade afterward advanced upon its right, and retook the guns of one of the reserve batteries, from which the cannoneers and supports had been driven.

The enemy was now attacking our whole front at different points. On the right advancing from the direction of the brick house on the Emmitsburg road toward Gibbon's division, where he was promptly checked and driven from that portion of Brown's battery temporarily captured. In this last operation the Nineteenth Maine, Col. F. E. Heath commanding, bore a conspicuous part.

On the left of the Second Corps, the line being still incomplete, and intervals existing through which the enemy approached our line of battle, General Meade brought up in person a part of the Twelfth Corps, consisting of two regiments of Lockwood's brigade, under Brig. Gen. H. H. Lockwood, which formed line, and advanced against the enemy, then closely engaged with us, and he was soon driven from the field. By the advance of these regiments, the artillery which had been left on the field in the Third Corps line was recaptured from the enemy. Humphreys' division participated in this advance and in the recapture of its guns.

Brigadier-General Barksdale, of the rebel service, was left on the field, mortally wounded.

The Third Brigade of the Third Division, commanded by Colonel Sherrill, after Colonel Willard's death, made a gallant advance on

the enemy's batteries to the right of the brick house, in which the One hundred and eleventh New York Volunteers, under Colonel MacDougall, bore a distinguished part. This brigade lost nearly one-half its numbers.

It was nearly dark. Proceeding to the right of the Second Corps, near Cemetery Hill, and hearing a heavy engagement on General Howard's front, the firing seeming to come nearer and nearer, I directed General Gibbon to send Colonel Carroll's brigade, Third Division, to that point, to report to General Howard at once. I was gratified to hear subsequently, from General Howard in person, that it arrived at a very critical time, and that this unexpected re-enforcement materially assisted him in driving the enemy from his front. Hearing firing farther to the right, and believing it to be on General Slocum's front, and fearing that the troops he had sent to me had left him without sufficient force, I directed General Gibbon to send two regiments to that point. The Seventy-first Pennsylvania, Col. R. Penn Smith, and the One hundred and sixth Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. W. L. Curry, were dispatched, but they also reported to Major-General Howard. The One hundred and sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers remained until relieved next day, doing good service. The Seventy-first returned to its command about midnight, without having received orders to do so, after suffering some loss.

In addition to the troops specially mentioned heretofore as being on the line of the Second Corps on July 2, I would mention Battery C, Fourth U. S. Artillery, commanded by Lieut. Evan Thomas. This officer is particularly mentioned for bravery and good conduct. A battery of the Artillery Reserve, commanded by ———, was also on the line during this action.

During the night of the 2d, the batteries were supplied with ammunition as far as practicable. Having brought but half the ammunition train of the corps, we were dependent somewhat on others. The battery ammunition was supplied by the train of the Artillery Reserve, though not to the full extent required.

For details of the important service rendered by the First Division of the Second Corps, during the time it was detached in the afternoon of the 2d instant, I refer you to the clear and concise report of its commander, Brigadier-General Caldwell, which is herewith transmitted. Between 500 and 600 prisoners were captured by this division on that occasion.

The corps had been so weakened by its losses on the 2d, that on the 3d instant it required every available man in the line of battle to cover the ground held the previous day. Colonel Carroll's brigade, of General Hays' division, was retained by General Howard, and, with the exception of the Eighth Ohio, was not engaged with the Second Corps during the day.

The early morning passed in comparative quiet along our front, but the heavy and continued firing on the right indicated that the efforts of the enemy were being directed on the Twelfth Corps. Trifling affairs occurred at intervals between the enemy's skirmishers and our own, and the artillery of the corps was frequently and successfully engaged with that of the enemy.

From 11 a. m. until 1 p. m. there was an ominous stillness. About 1 o'clock, apparently by a given signal, the enemy opened upon our front with the heaviest artillery fire I have ever known. Their guns were in position at an average distance of about 1,400 yards from my line, and ran in a semicircle from the town of Gettysburg to a point

Report of Brig. Gen. William Harrow, U.S. Army, commanding Second Division, Second Army Corps

Dated	July 16, 1863
Source	Official Records, Series I, Vol. 27, Part 1, Report No. 99
Printed pages	419–420
Packet pages	18–19

About this report

Harrow commanded the First Brigade of Gibbon’s division, which included the 1st Minnesota, and reported for the division after Gibbon was wounded. He places the regiment, under Colonel Colvill, in the rear and to the left of a battery, and describes the officers shot down in the fight on July 2.

About this excerpt

P. 420 also describes the repulse of July 3.

No. 99.

Reports of Brig. Gen. William Harrow, U. S. Army, commanding Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
July 16, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following in reference to the part taken by the Second Division, Second Corps, in the late sanguinary engagement of the 2d and 3d instant, near Gettysburg, Pa.:

The division arrived upon the battle-field on the morning of the 2d, and was ordered into position by Brig. Gen. John Gibbon, as follows: The Second Brigade, General Webb commanding, occupied the right of the division, and was stationed on the crest of a ridge, the left resting nearly opposite a two-story brick house about 300 yards in front of the line, the right resting upon and covered by a stone fence, and connecting with the left of the command of Brigadier-General Hays, commanding Third Division, Second Corps. The Third Brigade, Colonel Hall, Seventh Michigan Volunteers, commanding, connected with the left of General Webb's brigade, and continued the line in the direction of Round Top Mountain to the left, their two brigades covering a front of 500 yards. The First Brigade, my own command, was placed in reserve 100 yards in rear of the Second and Third Brigades and opposite the center of the line. The division occupied the position indicated when the advance of Major-General Sickles developed the enemy in force, in rear of a range of hills to the left and front of his command, sheltered by a dense wood, which was skirted in front by a smaller growth of thick bushes.

At this time, by direction of General Gibbon, two regiments of my command (the Fifteenth Massachusetts Volunteers, Colonel Ward, and Eighty-second New York, Colonel Huston commanding) advanced to the front of the general line, and were placed on the Gettysburg and Emmitsburg road, on the right of the brick house before referred to, the left of Colonel Huston's command resting at the house, Colonel Ward prolonging the line to the right. The First Minnesota Volunteers, Colonel Colvill commanding, by the direction of General Gibbon, were moved from their original position in the rear, to the left of a battery commanded by Lieutenant Thomas, and stationed on the high ground a short distance to the left of the division line of battle. The Nineteenth Maine Volunteers, Colonel Heath commanding, were moved to the left and front of the division line, and placed in position to the right of a battery commanded by Lieutenant Brown. These dispositions being made, the division waited the approach of the enemy. It soon becoming evident that a general engagement would follow the attack upon Major-General Sickles, he retired toward the general line, the enemy pushing forward with great impetuosity. As the enemy advanced, the first of the division to engage them were the Eighty-second New York and Fifteenth Massachusetts Volunteers, from their position on the Gettysburg and Emmitsburg road. These two regiments, in the aggregate not more than 700 strong, and without support on their line, but partially protected by the rails of a fence which they had hastily taken down and piled in their front, gallantly sustained an unequal contest against greatly superior numbers until the enemy's advance had reached their left flank, when they retired, but not before suffer-

ing heavy losses and inflicting more than a corresponding punishment upon their assailants. It was in this advanced line that Colonels Ward and Huston both fell, mortally wounded (each since dead), and here also many line officers were killed and wounded. The enemy continued to advance until they attacked with great fury the commands of Colonels Colvill and Heath, endeavoring to take the batteries under their protection. In this assault, Colonel Colvill, Lieutenant-Colonel Adams, and Major Downie were shot down, the two former severely, and I fear mortally, wounded, but the command maintained its position until supported by the arrival of other troops.

It would be unjust to a young and accomplished officer, Lieutenant Thomas, not to bear testimony here to his gallantry, and to credit him with destroying large numbers of the enemy by the very effective fire of his guns. His exertions contributed largely to checking and finally repulsing the enemy at this point.

Colonel Heath, Nineteenth Maine Volunteers, was attacked with equal desperation, the enemy at one time obtaining possession of three of the guns of the battery on his left. These guns he retook and carried from the field, most of the battery horses having been killed and many of the gunners killed and wounded. The officers and men of this command, as also the officers and men of the battery, deserve high commendation for their determination and valor.

The final repulse of the enemy accomplished, dispositions were made for the contest of the succeeding day (July 3) by General Gibbon, as follows: The Second and Third Brigades on this day occupied the position of the day previous, the First Brigade continuing the line to the left. The entire line was strengthened during the night by such means as could be commanded.

At 1 p. m. the enemy opened a fierce cannonade upon the line from a hundred or more guns, which was continued until nearly 3 p. m., when his infantry columns moved from the woods, 1,000 yards in front, and steadily advanced to the assault. After crossing the Emmitsburg and Gettysburg road in two lines, with supports upon the right and left, accommodating their advance to the inequalities of the surface, so as to cover themselves as far as possible by the low grounds in front of the division, this movement brought them first in range of the guns of the First Brigade, but the crest of the hill occupied by the right of Colonel Hall and the left of General Webb seemed to be the point to which their main attack was directed. As this purpose became manifest, the Third and First Brigades, of this division, inclined to the right, engaging the enemy as they moved, the whole command meeting the shock from the enemy's heaviest lines and supports near the crest of the ridge. Here the contest raged with almost unparalleled ferocity for nearly an hour, when the enemy was routed and fled in disorder.

I have no words to express the unwavering courage and daring of the entire command in this the final struggle. Many prisoners, including many officers, were taken here; also many battle-flags were captured.

It would be gross injustice to claim a greater share of this triumph for one brigade of the division to the exclusion of another. It was a common struggle and a common success, as the gallant dead and wounded of each of the brigades of the division there fallen amply testify. The First Brigade carried off the field four of the enemy's battle-flags; each of the other brigades as many or more.

Report of Capt. Henry C. Coates, First Minnesota Infantry

Dated	August 3, 1863
Source	Official Records, Series I, Vol. 27, Part 1, Report No. 102
Printed pages	424–425
Packet pages	21–22

About this report

The regiment's own report, written by its senior surviving officer. It tells of the advance on the enemy, the officers killed and wounded, and the capture of colors.

About this excerpt

P. 424 opens with the end of the previous report (Lieut. Col. Joslin, 15th Massachusetts) before Coates begins.

A footnote on p. 425 sends the casualty list to the revised statement on p. 176, reproduced in the appendix.

ness and bravery. I would mention especially Major Hooper and Lieutenant Earle, acting adjutant, they both being with me the whole time and showing the greatest bravery.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. C. JOSLIN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Lieut. F. W. HASKELL,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Brigade, Second Division.

SANDY HOOK, MD.,
July 16, 1863.

SIR: In compliance with circular orders from brigade headquarters of this date, I submit the following report of casualties during the engagement at Gettysburg, Pa., July 2 and 3:

Officers:	
Killed	3
Wounded	8
Total	11
Enlisted men:	
Killed	19
Wounded	85
Missing	2
Total	106
Prisoners	26
Buried by regimental detail:	
Officers	1
Enlisted men	9
Guns brought in by regimental detail	60

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO C. JOSLIN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

Lieutenant HASKELL,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 102.

Report of Capt. Henry C. Coates, First Minnesota Infantry.

NEAR ELLIS' FORD, VA.,
August 3, 1863.

SIR: Pursuant to circular of this date, I respectfully submit the following statement of the part taken by this regiment in the late battle near Gettysburg, Pa.:

About 3 o'clock on the morning of July 2, we were ordered into position near the center of our line of battle, to the left of the town. The battle commenced at daylight, and raged with fury the entire day. We remained under a severe artillery fire, but were not actively engaged until about 5 p. m., when we were moved to support Battery C, Fourth U. S. Artillery. Company F was abou this time detached from the regiment as skirmishers, and Company L as sharpshooters.

Our infantry in front of us had advanced upon the enemy and pushed him for a while, but were in turn driven back in some confusion, the enemy following in heavy force. To check the enemy, we were ordered to advance, which we did, moving at double-quick down the slope of the hill right upon the rebel line. The fire we encountered here was terrible, and, although we inflicted severe punishment upon the enemy, and stopped his advance, we there lost in killed and wounded more than two-thirds of our men and officers who were engaged.

Here Captain Muller, of Company E, and Lieutenant Farrar, of Company I, were killed; Captain Periam, of Company K, mortally wounded. Colonel Colvill, Lieutenant-Colonel Adams, Major Downie, Adjutant Peller, and Lieutenants Sinclair, Company B; Demarest, Company E; De Gray, Company G; and Boyd, Company I, were severely wounded.

The command of the regiment now devolved upon Capt. Nathan S. Messick, and we were moved again to the right, near the position first occupied by us, where we slept on our arms during the night.

At daybreak the next morning the enemy renewed the battle with vigor on the right and left of our line with infantry, and about 10 a. m. opened upon the center, where we were posted, a most severe fire of artillery, which continued without intermission until 3 p. m., when heavy columns of the enemy's infantry were thrown suddenly forward against our position. They marched resolutely in the face of a withering fire up to our lines, and succeeded in planting their colors on one of our batteries. The point of attack was to the right of our position, and held by the Second Brigade of our division (Second Division, Second Army Corps). As the enemy approached, we were moved by the right flank to oppose them, firing upon them as we approached, and sustaining their fire, together with the fire of batteries which they had brought up to within short range. The fighting here was desperate for a time. At length the regiment and others closed in upon the enemy, and nearly the whole of the rebel force which remained alive were taken prisoners. About 500 were captured by this regiment; also the colors of the Twenty-eighth Virginia Regiment, taken by Private Marshall Sherman, of Company C.*

The regiment here again lost severely. Capt. Nathan S. Messick, while gallantly leading the regiment, fell early in the action. Capt. W. B. Farrell, Company C, was mortally wounded, and died on the day following. Lieutenants Mason and Heffelfinger, Company D, Harmon, Company C, and May, Company B, were wounded.

The enemy did not recover from this repulse, and the battle was now won. The entire regiment, excepting Company L, was in this last fight. This company had been detached as sharpshooters, to support Kirby's battery, where it did very effective service. Every man in the regiment did his whole duty.

The accompanying list of killed and wounded shows the severity of our loss.†

Your obedient servant,

H. C. COATES,
Captain, Commanding Regiment.

Lieut. F. W. HASKELL,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

*A medal of honor awarded to Sherman for this service.
†Embodied in revised statement, p. 176.

Map in the report of Maj. Gen. Henry W. Slocum, U.S. Army, commanding Twelfth Army Corps

Dated	August 23, 1863
Source	Official Records, Series I, Vol. 27, Part 1, Report No. 271
Printed pages	760
Packet pages	24

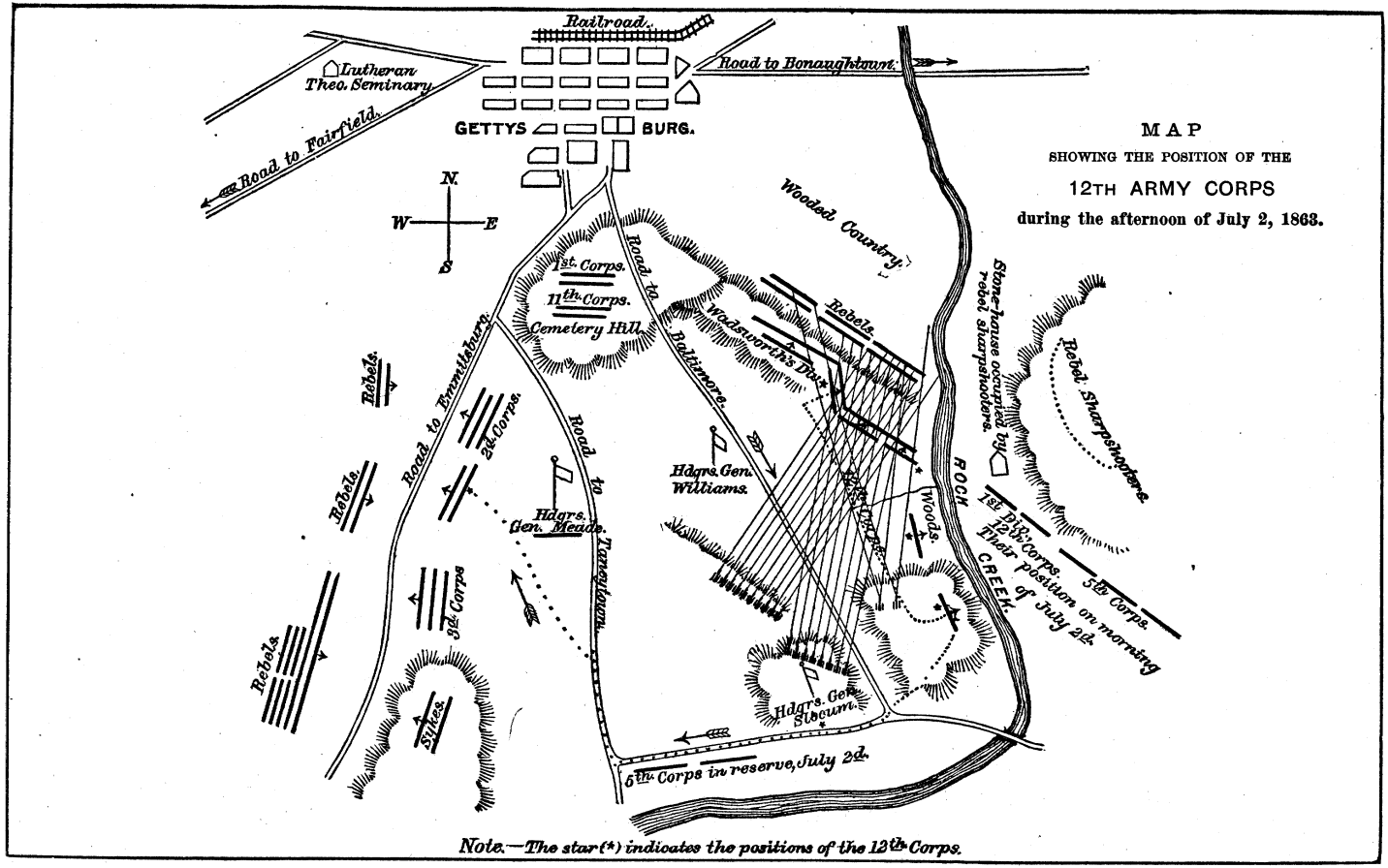
About this report

P. 760 is the map printed with Slocum's report, titled "Map showing the position of the 12th Army Corps during the afternoon of July 2, 1863."

About this excerpt

Slocum's report text (pp. 758–759 and 761 onward) is not reproduced.

The map is printed sideways in the volume; it is rotated here to read upright.



Note.—The star (*) indicates the positions of the 12th Corps.

Report of Brig. Gen. John W. Geary, U.S. Army, commanding Second Division

Dated	July 29, 1863
Source	Official Records, Series I, Vol. 27, Part 1, Report No. 293
Printed pages	825–827
Packet pages	26–28

About this report

Geary's account of July 2. It covers the move to Culp's Hill, the order to follow the First Division, the return, and his night on Rock Creek, ending at 1 a.m. on July 3.

About this excerpt

Pp. 828–830 cover the fighting of July 3 and belong to Part 7. P. 824 (the end of the 3rd Wisconsin's report) and pp. 831 onward are not reproduced.

to allow the Artillery Reserve to pass. Passing through Ceresville, Walkersville, and Woodsborough, we crossed Big Pipe Creek, and encamped at 7 p. m., having marched 21 miles.

At 5 o'clock on the morning of the 30th, the division again moved, and marched through Taneytown and Littlestown, encamping near the latter place at noon. A half hour before reaching this place our cavalry had there a skirmish with that of the rebels. The command was hastened forward and dispositions at once made to receive the enemy, who, however, retired in the direction of Hanover.

On July 1, we moved from camp at 5 a. m., and reached Two Taverns at 11 a. m., where we halted to await further orders. The distance marched from the 28th to this time was 52 miles.

At Two Taverns I received orders to forward the command in the direction of Gettysburg, on the turnpike leading from Baltimore to that place, and, accordingly, at about 2 p. m. advanced rapidly on the road to the town. I received instructions from you while on the march to leave one brigade with a section of artillery in reserve, and with the balance of my command to report to Major-General Howard, whom I should have found at a point some mile and a half east of the town, where an engagement with the right wing of the enemy's forces was then in progress; but not finding General Howard, I reported to Major-General Hancock, commanding Second Corps, who informed me that the right could maintain itself, and the immediate need of a division on the left was imperative. By his direction, upon this threatening emergency, I took up a position on the extreme left of the line of battle, as the enemy was reported to be attempting to flank it, and cavalry were already skirmishing in front of that position.

At 5 p. m. this movement was consummated, and my line extended at that time from about half a mile west of the Baltimore turnpike to the left of the First Army Corps, to a range of hills south and west of the town, which I occupied with two regiments of the First Brigade. These hills I regarded as of the utmost importance, since their possession by the enemy would give him an opportunity of enfilading our entire left wing and center with a fire which could not fail to dislodge us from our position. This line was held by the First and Third Brigades.

The Second Brigade, with two pieces of Battery K, Fifth U. S. Artillery, pursuant to orders from Major-General Slocum, was detached during the march to take position in reserve on the immediate left of the turnpike, about 2 miles from Gettysburg. No attack was made upon me at either point, the speedy formation of the line on the left frustrating the enemy's design, which would, if successful, have proved disastrous to the entire position. The command rested on their arms during the night.

At 5 a. m. on the 2d, having been relieved by the Third Army Corps, in obedience to orders from Major-General Slocum, the division was placed on the right of the center of the main line of battle, east of the turnpike. General Williams' division, commanded by Brigadier-General Ruger, joined ours, forming the extreme right, and extending toward the Bonaughtown turnpike and at right angles to it. Here I had formed a double line of battle, fronting Rock Creek, and about 400 yards from it, along a rocky, thickly wooded ridge which sloped eastwardly to the creek. The Third Brigade (Greene's) occupied our extreme left, joining the right of the First Corps on a steep, rocky mount, which was a continuation of Cemetery Hill. Our line was nearly at a right angle with that of the First

Corps. The Second Brigade (Kane's) extended from the right of Greene's brigade at an angle of about 45 degrees forward, conforming its line to the crest of the ridge. The First Brigade (Candy's) was formed in rear of the Third in line of battalions, in double column, as a support to the other two brigades.

Breastworks were immediately thrown up along our entire line, unusual facilities being afforded by the wood and rock and nature of the soil. Skirmishers were thrown out to the creek, where they encountered the enemy's pickets. I ordered the Twenty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers forward as a support to the skirmishers of the Third Brigade. They deployed in a heavy line in rear of the advance skirmishers, and remained until withdrawn in the evening.

At 4 p. m. the enemy opened with a fierce attack on the left and center of the army, and subjected our men to severe artillery fire. Finding that a battery of the enemy posted on a hill across Rock Creek was enfilading the lines of the First and Eleventh Corps, I ordered a section of Knap's (Pennsylvania) battery and one of Battery K, Fifth U. S. Artillery, to take position on the eminence at the left of Greene's brigade and to silence the enemy's battery. This they did after a hot artillery duel of about thirty minutes. The guns of these two sections were admirably served in the midst of a deadly fire from a battery which raked at short range the point they occupied. Occasional picket firing was kept up until 6 p. m.

By a staff officer of Major-General Slocum, at 7 p. m. I received orders to move the division by the right flank, and follow the First Division, leaving one brigade to occupy the line of works of the entire corps. The First Division had gone nearly half an hour previously. Leaving Greene's brigade in the intrenchments, I rapidly moved the First and Second Brigades to the right, across Rock Creek, and, having reached the turnpike across Rock Creek Bridge, halted and reported my position, through an aide, to corps headquarters.

When ordered thus to leave my intrenchments, I received no specific instructions as to the object of the move, the direction to be taken, or the point to be reached, beyond the order to move by the right flank and to follow the First Division. The First Division having gone out of sight or hearing, I directed the head of my column by the course of some of the men of that division who appeared to be following it. While moving in this direction, the enemy's artillery fire crossed our route, causing a few casualties among my troops.

At 7.30 o'clock I received an order to hold the position down to the creek at all hazards. I therefore formed my line, with my right resting on the turnpike, near the bridge, and my left on Rock Creek.

In the meantime General Greene had commenced to extend his brigade, as ordered, along the line of intrenchments, and had barely occupied General Kane's original position when a vigorous attack was made upon his front and right by the enemy, who quickly occupied the intrenchments left by the First Division. To meet this attack on his flank, the One hundred and thirty-seventh New York Volunteers, which held the right of Greene's brigade, changed front, forming at a right angle to the rifle-pits, thus covering the right of the entire brigade. At this time the California Regiment, Colonel Smith, of Cutler's brigade, Wadsworth's division, First Corps,* reported as reenforcements. General Greene placed this regiment on the right of the One hundred and thirty-seventh. It soon fell back and was with-

* The regiment mentioned belonged to Webb's brigade, of Gibbon's division, Second Corps.

drawn by its colonel, who stated that he was ordered so to do by his general. This withdrawal placed the right of Greene's brigade in a critical position.

Greene's brigade now behaved with the most unflinching gallantry, sustaining their desperate position during an incessant attack of two and a half hours from vastly superior numbers. During this time the noble brigade repelled four separate and furious charges on their entire line without losing a foot of ground. The heaps of rebel dead and wounded in front of their lines afterward attested their desperate determination.

As soon as the attack commenced, Generals Wadsworth and Howard were petitioned by General Greene for support, to which they promptly responded—the Sixth Wisconsin, Colonel Dawes, Fourteenth Brooklyn, Colonel Fowler, and One hundred and forty-seventh New York Volunteers, Major Banta* (in all, 355 men), being sent from Wadsworth's division, and the Eighty-second Illinois, Lieutenant-Colonel Salomon, Forty-fifth New York Volunteers, Colonel Amsberg, and the Sixty-first Ohio, Colonel McGroarty (in all, about 400 men) from the Eleventh Corps. These regiments rendered good service, relieving temporarily regiments of Greene's brigade whose ammunition was exhausted, and by whom they were again in turn relieved.

The enemy, meeting with so determined a resistance, discontinued their attack at about 10 p. m., and remained in occupancy of the ridge formerly held by the First Division, General Greene still holding all his original position, with the One hundred and thirty-seventh New York Volunteers placed in line perpendicularly to the rest of the brigade, its left resting on the intrenchments and its right near a stone wall, which extended parallel to Generals Ruger's and Kane's intrenchments and about 200 yards in rear of them. This stone wall was occupied by a force of the enemy as a protection against attack from the direction of the turnpike.

At 9 p. m. I ordered Kane's brigade to return to its original position and Candy's to follow it. On entering the woods, and when within 200 yards of the breastworks, Kane's brigade was met by a sharp fire, which, in the midst of the surrounding darkness, was at first supposed to be from General Greene's troops. Without replying, the brigade was withdrawn to the turnpike, taken in past the rear of Greene's brigade and past Greene's right, when it was again met with a volley, thus proving that the enemy still occupied the ground to Greene's right; a fact of which in the dark night there remained some doubt.

It being injudicious to attack the enemy in the night in their new position, I formed the Second Brigade in double line perpendicular to the Third Brigade and joining its right, thus relieving the One hundred and thirty-seventh New York Volunteers, which had so long and so well held that position. Between this new line of the Second Brigade and that of the enemy in their front was a shallow ravine. The whole ground was very rough and rocky, affording some shelter on both sides for infantry. I devoted the rest of the night, after consultation with Major-General Slocum and Brigadier-General Williams, to such an arrangement of my troops as, by a vigorous attack at daylight, to drive the enemy from the ground they had gained.

At 1 a. m. on the 3d, the First Brigade, which had been held in readiness on the turnpike, was placed in position on the right of Kane's brigade, in extension of Kane's line, its right resting on an

* Reference is probably to Major Harney.

Report of Brig. Gen. Thomas L. Kane, U.S. Army, commanding Second Brigade, Second Division, Twelfth Corps

Dated	July 6, 1863
Source	Official Records, Series I, Vol. 27, Part 1, Report No. 302
Printed pages	846–848
Packet pages	30–32

About this report

Kane rejoined his brigade on the morning of July 2 after a ride through Confederate cavalry lines in civilian dress. His brigade held the line to the right of Greene’s, was moved out at twilight, and was met by fire when it returned to its breastworks that night.

About this excerpt

P. 846 opens with the end of Pardee’s report (147th Pennsylvania). Kane’s report continues to the top of p. 848, where Cobham’s report (111th Pennsylvania) begins. Kane’s account of the attack of July 3 belongs to Part 7.

and Forty-seventh Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers in the actions of July 2 and 3:

My regiment was relieved from picket duty early on the morning of the 2d, and marched with the brigade to the position on the right of the line occupied by the First Army Corps. In this position we remained until evening, when we marched with the brigade to a position near and east of the turnpike leading from Gettysburg to Baltimore.

On the morning of the 3d, we marched to a point near the line of the previous day and toward the right of the line of the brigade, having on our right the Seventh Regiment Ohio Volunteers and on our left the Fifth Regiment Ohio Volunteers. Soon after the line was formed, I was ordered by General Geary, commanding division, to move forward with my regiment to a point which commanded the right of the line of intrenchments, and from which a view could be had of the movements of the enemy. My regiment, soon after reaching its assigned position, became engaged with the skirmishers of the enemy, who were soon driven from their position. Skirmishers were sent to the front and right flank, into the woods, from which they greatly harassed the enemy.

At about 8 a. m. an attempt was made by the enemy to turn the right of the line of the intrenchments. They boldly advanced to within about 100 yards without discovering my regiment. I then ordered the regiment to fire, and broke their line. They reformed again as a body and advanced. Their advance was checked by the heavy fire they received, when they broke and ran. I would have charged them, but had no support, and would not have been able to have held their position against the column in their rear.

I have the honor to report that I held the position assigned me until late in the afternoon, when I was ordered to report to General Wadsworth, of the First Corps.

My loss has been, I am happy to say, slight, when my exposed position is taken into consideration. The casualties are, 1 commissioned officer (Lieut. William H. Tourison, Company E) killed, 4 enlisted men killed, and 16 wounded. A list of the casualties has already been furnished you.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

ARIO PARDEE, JR.,
Lieut. Col. 147th Regt. Pennsylvania Vols., Comdg.

Lieut. A. H. W. CREIGH, *Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.*

No. 302.

Report of Brig. Gen. Thomas L. Kane, U. S. Army, commanding Second Brigade.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., TWELFTH CORPS,
Near Littlestown, Pa., July 6, 1863.

CAPTAIN: I respectfully inclose two of the special reports ordered of the commanders of regiments of my brigade. The report of the One hundred and eleventh Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers has not yet been received.

I assumed command at 6 a. m. on the morning of the 2d instant, communication with the army having been cut off so completely by

Stuart's cavalry that I succeeded with great difficulty in making my way through their lines in citizen's dress.

I have to express my thanks to Colonel Cobham, One hundred and eleventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, who commanded the brigade in my absence, for the high state of efficiency in which I found it. I have recommended this most deserving officer for promotion.

The brigade was ordered forward into line with the rest of the division soon after my arrival, and before sundown threw up a substantial breastwork, as directed, upon the excellent position assigned them.

At twilight we were removed to the batteries on the turnpike, and shortly after ordered to return to our former position. On entering the wood, within 200 paces of our breastwork, we were met by a sharp fire, which we supposed to come from the First Brigade, misled by the darkness. The men were, therefore, ordered not to reply, but withdrawn to the turnpike and marched in by another road. We moved directly to the position of the Third Brigade (where the noble veteran Greene, by his resistance against overwhelming odds, it should be remembered, saved the army), and, making our way past Greene's right, were again fired upon, thus discovering that the enemy had entire possession of our works. Their front was then opposite Greene's right flank, he holding them there. There was nothing to be done but to connect with Greene, fold down to the right along the best ground offering, and strengthen the right flank as much as possible.

The attack in force upon us commenced at 3.30 a. m., July 3. The Confederate Major-General Johnson's division led, followed by Rodes'. The statement by our prisoners is that they advanced in three lines, but they appeared to us only as closed in mass. We ceased firing occasionally for a minute or two, to induce the enemy to come out of advantageous positions, when they paid for their temerity; but with this exception kept up a fire of unintermitting strength for seven hours, until about 10.30 o'clock, when the enemy made their last determined effort by charging in column of regiments. Their advance was Steuart's brigade, of Johnson's division. The First Maryland Battalion (Confederate States) left most of their dead in line with our own. It cannot be denied that they behaved courageously. Our own loss was but 23 killed and 73 wounded. Twenty men have been missing since we were fired on in the woods on Thursday night.

After this repulse the enemy fell back, and, although they kept up a desultory fire for some time after, it was plain, as the result proved, that the battle was over.

By the accompanying report of Lieut. W. H. White,* Company G, Twenty-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, you will see that the number of Enfield rifles left by the enemy, on an area of about two acres in front of our second position, was 1,803. The reports of burying parties will probably show that not less than 500 men were left dead there. The whole number of men of my brigade who were in this action was 652. They justified their reputation as marksmen.

I have not the name of a single straggler or recreant reported to me. Every officer and man of my command did his duty, and I must on this account refuse myself the privilege of naming particularly any of the numerous examples of heroism which I witnessed.

* Omitted.

I should acknowledge the valuable services of Lieuts. Thomas J. Leiper and J. Spencer Smith, of my staff. In the absence of Capt. J. P. Green, assistant adjutant-general, Lieutenant Leiper served as acting assistant adjutant-general with unvarying ability.

The few of our killed were unhappily among our best men. Second Lieut. Edward J. Harvey, Company K, Twenty-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, was a man of fine mind and elevated character; Lieutenant McKeever, Company A, Twenty-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, an ardent patriot and faithful officer; Sergeant-Major [Charles H.] Letford, Twenty-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, a youth of the fairest promise; Color-Sergt. John E. Greenwood, One hundred and ninth, Sergts. E. F. Allen, One hundred and eleventh, and Anthony E. Thomas, Edward N. Sommerkamp, and Jacob Lower, Twenty-ninth; Corporal [William] Louder, Twenty-ninth, and Privates [John] Sheemer, [Orlando S.] Campbell, [Charles] Miller, [John M.] Richardson, One hundred and eleventh; [Casper H.] Warner, [Thomas] Acton, [Robert] Hews, [Robert] Lockhart, [John] Applegate, [John] Watson, [Emanuel] McLaughlin, [James] Morrow, Twenty-ninth, and [Thomas C.] Ochs and [De Lany S.] Veale, One hundred and ninth, were all patriotic and brave men, whose loss is seriously to be deplored. Young Veale, often noticed for his singularly handsome and bright countenance, was adjutant's clerk of his regiment, but insisted on going into action with his rifle.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOMAS L. KANE,
Brigadier-General U. S. Volunteers.

Capt. THOMAS H. ELLIOTT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 303.

Report of Col. George A. Cobham, jr., One hundred and eleventh Pennsylvania Infantry, commanding Second Brigade.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., TWELFTH CORPS,
Near Ellis' Ford, Va., August 15, 1863.

CAPTAIN: In compliance with circular order from headquarters Army of the Potomac, August 12, 1863, I have the honor to submit the following report of the movements of this brigade from June 28 to July 26:

At 4 o'clock on the morning of June 29, the brigade broke camp about 1 mile from Frederick City, Md., marching through Frederick, Walkersville, Woodsborough, Pipeville, and Bruceville, and encamped for the night, having marched 20 miles.

On the 30th, marched to Littlestown, Pa., 15 miles.

July 1, marched by the Baltimore turnpike to Two Taverns, and from there to within about 2 miles from Gettysburg, when the brigade was placed in position, by direction of Brigadier-General Geary, commanding division, on the crest of a hill overlooking part of the battle-field, and in support of a battery stationed on the hill. Here the troops lay on their arms during the night.

About 6 o'clock on the morning of July 2, Brigadier-General Kane arrived on the field in an ambulance of the Second Army Corps, and assumed command of the brigade. I then took command of my own regiment, the One hundred and eleventh Pennsylvania Volunteers,

Reports of Brig. Gen. George S. Greene, U.S. Army, commanding Third Brigade

Dated	July 12, 1863
Source	Official Records, Series I, Vol. 27, Part 1, Report No. 307
Printed pages	855–858
Packet pages	34–37

About this report

Greene held the right of the Twelfth Corps line on Culp’s Hill when the rest of the corps left. He gives the times of the attacks, the reinforcements that reached him, and his estimate of losses on both sides.

About this excerpt

P. 855 opens with the end of Lieut. Col. Walker’s report (111th Pennsylvania). His figures for Confederate losses are his own estimates. The casualty table on p. 858 is footnoted to the revised statement on p. 185, which is not reproduced.

The second report (August 15, 1863, p. 859 onward) is a marching itinerary and is not reproduced.

when it was determined the line should be changed a very little to the rear, so as to get the advantage of a wing of General Greene's trenches. I was endeavoring to move my regiment, a man at a time, with the utmost caution, when our watchful enemy detected a move, and, supposing we were about to retire, opened fire upon us. My men returned the fire, silencing theirs, and then moved to the position assigned them, awaiting daylight for the work to begin.

Picket firing began with the first streak of light, and about 3.45 o'clock the line of the enemy advanced with a yell. We opened fire briskly, quickly compelling them to take the shelter of the rocks and of our own trenches that were in their possession.

We continued fighting in this way until 5.55 o'clock, when we were relieved by the Twenty-ninth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, for the purpose of renewing our ammunition. After filling our boxes and wiping our guns, we returned to the same position, and continued the fight until we had again exhausted our ammunition, and were in turn relieved by the Twenty-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers. Soon after this, about 1 o'clock, the enemy retired, giving up the contest.

In this fight, about half of my regiment was in open line, fighting a desperate enemy behind the very rifle-pits they had built for their own protection. I am proud to say they fought feeling they were Pennsylvanians in Pennsylvania. We expended 160 rounds to the man.

I wish to mention as deserving praise for great bravery and coolness, Captains Woeltge, Thomas, and Warner; also that Sergeants [Henry] Dieffenbach, [George] Selkregg, [Andrew W.] Tracy, [Andrew J.] Bemis, [John L.] Wells, and [Mills F.] Allison, and Privates John Hughes and Orrin Sweet deserve mention.

We lost in this contest 5 men killed and 16 wounded, lists of which have been forwarded.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. M. WALKER,

Lieutenant-Colonel, Comdg. 111th Pennsylvania Volunteers.

Lieut. THOMAS J. LEIPER,

Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 307.

Reports of Brig. Gen. George S. Greene, U. S. Army, commanding Third Brigade.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., SECOND DIV., TWELFTH CORPS,

Camp near Fair Play, Md., July 12, 1863.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report to the general commanding the operations of the Third Brigade, Second Division, Twelfth Army Corps, under my command, on July 1, 2, and 3, at the battle of Gettysburg.

Arriving from Littlestown on the field of battle, we were posted with the division on the left, on the right of the division, about half a mile to the right of Sugar Loaf Mountain, in front of the Taneytown road. There were no incidents to note on this day.

On the 2d, we took position at about 6 a. m. on the right of the First Corps, on the crest of the steep and rocky hill, being thrown

back nearly at right angles with the line of the First Corps, Rock Creek running past our front at the distance of 200 to 400 yards. Our position and the front were covered with a heavy growth of timber, free from undergrowth, with large ledges of rock projecting above the surface. These rocks and trees offered good cover for marksmen. The surface was very steep on our left, diminishing to a gentle slope on our right. The Second Brigade was on our right, thrown forward at a right angle to conform to the crest of the hill. On the right of this brigade was the First (Williams') Division, his right resting on an impassable mill-pond on Rock Creek. As soon as we were in position, we began to intrench ourselves and throw up breastworks of the covering height, of logs, cord-wood, stones, and earth. The same was done by the troops on my right.

By 12 o'clock we had a good cover for the men. The value of this defense was shown in our subsequent operations by our small loss compared with that of the enemy during the continuous attacks by a vastly superior force. Our skirmishers were thrown out immediately on taking position, and moved toward the creek in our front, when they came to the enemy's pickets.

We remained in this position, with occasional firing of the pickets, until 6.30 p. m., when the First (Williams') Division and the First and Second Brigades of the Second Division were ordered from my right, leaving the intrenchments of Kane's brigade and Williams' division unoccupied on the withdrawal of the troops.

I received orders to occupy the whole of the intrenchments previously occupied by the Twelfth Army Corps with my brigade. This movement was commenced, and the One hundred and thirty-seventh Regiment, on my right, was moved into the position occupied by Kane's (Second) brigade. Before any further movements could be made, we were attacked on the whole of our front by a large force a few minutes before 7 p. m. The enemy made four distinct charges between 7 and 9.30 p. m., which were effectually resisted.

About 8 p. m. the enemy appeared on our right flank, in the intrenchments (which were thrown back perpendicularly to Kane's line, occupied by Colonel Ireland with the One hundred and thirty-seventh Regiment New York Volunteers) from which Williams' division had been withdrawn, and attacked the right flank of the One hundred and thirty-seventh Regiment New York Volunteers. Colonel Ireland withdrew his right, throwing back his line perpendicular to the intrenchments in which he had been in position, and presenting his front to the enemy in their new position.

At this time the California Regiment, Colonel Smith, reported to assist me. He was ordered into position on the right of Ireland's regiment. They soon fell back and were withdrawn—the commanding officer saying that he had received orders from his commanding general to retire—leaving our right in a very critical position. As soon as the attack commenced, I sent to General Wadsworth, commanding the division of the First Corps on our left, and to General Howard, commanding the Eleventh Corps, posted on the left of the First Corps, for assistance, to which they promptly responded, by sending to my support the Sixth Wisconsin, Colonel Dawes; Fourteenth Brooklyn, Colonel Fowler; One hundred and forty-seventh New York, Major Banta* (in all about 355 men), from the First Corps, and the Eighty-second Illinois, Lieutenant-Colonel Salomon; Forty-fifth New York, Colonel Amsberg; Sixty-first Ohio, Colonel McGroarty (in all about 400 men), from the Eleventh Corps. These

* Reference is probably to Major Harney.

regiments rendered good service, being sent into the trenches to relieve our regiments as their ammunition was exhausted and their muskets required cleaning. At the close of this night attack, we occupied all the trenches of the Third Brigade. Colonel Ireland had withdrawn his regiment from Kane's trenches, and formed a line with his left in our intrenchments, and in continuation of our line toward a stone wall, which was parallel to Kane's line and about 200 yards in its rear, behind which we found the enemy posted.

About 10 o'clock I was informed that General Kane, with his brigade, was returning to his position, and immediately sent a staff officer to advise him that the enemy were in his intrenchments, and to bring him round by the rear to my right. He had, however, already been fired on by the enemy on our right. General Kane soon arrived, and gallantly assisted us by placing his small, but very reliable, command on my right, securing that flank.

The First Brigade returned to our support at 1.30 a. m. on the 3d, and took position in support of our right. At 4 a. m. our artillery, which had been posted to attack the enemy in the intrenchments of Kane's brigade and Williams' division, opened, and the attack was general on our line, and continued until 10.30 a. m., when the enemy retired, their pickets remaining in our front until the night of the 4th, when they retired. The enemy were early in the day driven from our intrenchments on our right, which were occupied by Kane's brigade and Williams' division.

At 7.30 a. m. General Lockwood, with his brigade—First Maryland Home Brigade, Colonel Maulsby; First Eastern Shore, of Maryland, Colonel Wallace; One hundred and fiftieth New York, Colonel Ketcham, about 1,700 men—came to our support from Williams' division and rendered efficient service. The First Maryland Home Brigade and the One hundred and fiftieth New York were distinguished for their good conduct.

Colonel Creighton, of the First Brigade, with his regiment (Seventh Ohio), arrived to my immediate support at 6 a. m., and was at once sent into the trenches. The Twenty-ninth Ohio, Captain Hayes, of the First Brigade, arrived soon after, followed by the Fifth Ohio, Colonel Patrick, and Sixty-sixth Ohio, Lieutenant-Colonel Powell.

The troops from the First and Eleventh Corps were returned to their commands as soon as their place was supplied by Lockwood's and Candy's brigades, having rendered good service and efficient aid. The regiments in the intrenchments were relieved from thirty to ninety minutes by others with fresh ammunition and clean arms, going forward at a double-quick and with a cheer, the regiments relieved falling back through their files when they arrived in the trenches, so that the fire was kept up constantly and efficiently over our whole line, and the men were always comparatively fresh and their arms in good order, the regiments relieved going to work with alacrity to clean their arms as soon as in rear.

Our own regiments engaged were New York Volunteers, viz: Sixtieth, Col. Abel Godard; One hundred and second, Col. J. C. Lane (who was severely wounded on the night of the 2d instant while gallantly discharging his duty, and obliged to resign the command to Capt. L. R. Stegman); Seventy-eighth, Lieutenant-Colonel Hammerstein; One hundred and thirty-seventh, Col. David Ireland, and One hundred and forty-ninth, Col. H. A. Barnum. Colonel Barnum, who is still suffering from a severe wound received at Malvern Hill, with great resolution kept the field during the action, and part of the

time in active command of his regiment. During most of the time the regiment was gallantly commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Randall, who was severely wounded in the morning of the 3d.

The officers and men behaved admirably during the whole of the contest. Colonel Ireland was attacked on his flank and rear. He changed his position and maintained his ground with skill and gallantry, his regiment suffering very severely. Where all so well did their duty it is difficult to specially commend any individual, but all have my hearty commendations for their gallant conduct and for the good service rendered their country.

To my own staff—Capt. C. P. Horton, assistant adjutant-general; Capt. A. B. Shipman, who, though suffering from disease, was able to be on the field part of the time, and to my aides, Lieut. C. T. Greene, Sixtieth New York Volunteers, and Lieut. J. J. Cantine, One hundred and thirty-seventh New York Volunteers—my thanks are due for their gallantry and great activity during this contest as at all other times.

Our own force engaged at different times was—

My brigade	1,350
Sent from First Corps	355
Sent from Eleventh Corps	400
Part of Colonel Candy's brigade	1,000
Total	3,105

Not more than 1,300 men were in the lines at any one time.

The loss of the enemy greatly exceeds ours. We found of their dead in front of our lines 391, and there were across the creek a number of dead, estimated at 150, making a total of killed, 541. Of the 2,000 muskets picked up on our position and in front, 1,700 must have belonged to the enemy, showing clearly a loss of killed and wounded, in addition to those who may have carried their arms off the field, estimated at 500. My brigade took 130 prisoners, showing clearly a loss to the enemy of nearly 2,400 men in our front. The loss of the enemy in officers was heavy. Maj. B. W. Leigh, General Johnson's adjutant-general, was killed in our front, and papers indicating the troops engaged in our front found on him and forwarded to headquarters. The enemy's force was vastly superior to ours, and is reported to be Johnson's division, of Ewell's corps, which attacked us on the night of the 2d instant, and the same division re-enforced by Rodes' division on the 3d.

Officers and men.	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Total.
Commissioned officers	6	10	1	17
Enlisted men	56	203	31	290
Total*	62	213	32	307

Herewith are presented the regimental reports of Colonel Ireland, One hundred and thirty-seventh New York; Colonel Barnum, One hundred and forty-ninth New York; Colonel Godard, Sixtieth New York; Lieutenant-Colonel Hammerstein, Seventy-eighth New York,

*But see revised statement, p. 185.

Report of Maj. Gen. Edward Johnson, C.S. Army, commanding division

Dated	September 30, 1863
Source	Official Records, Series I, Vol. 27, Part 2, Johnson's division report
Printed pages	504–505
Packet pages	39–40

About this report

Johnson's report of his division's assault on Culp's Hill on the evening of July 2 and the renewed attack of July 3.

About this excerpt

The Gettysburg report begins on p. 503, below the end of Johnson's earlier report (Winchester); pp. 503 and 506–508 are not reproduced.

The last day's march was 25 miles, rendered the more fatiguing because of obstructions caused by wagons of Longstreet's corps.

Late on the night of July 1, I moved along the Gettysburg and York Railroad to the northeast of the town, and formed line of battle in a ravine in an open field, Nicholls' brigade on the right, next Jones'; Steuart's and Walker's on the left. Pickets were thrown well to the front, and the troops slept on their arms.

Early next morning, skirmishers from Walker's and Jones' brigades were advanced for the purpose of feeling the enemy, and desultory firing was maintained with their skirmishers until 4 p. m., at which hour I ordered Major Latimer to open fire with all of his pieces from the only eligible hill within range, Jones' brigade being properly disposed as a support. The hill was directly in front of the wooded mountain and a little to the left of the Cemetery Hill; consequently exposed to the concentrated fire from both, and also to an enfilade fire from a battery near the Baltimore road. The unequal contest was maintained for two hours with considerable damage to the enemy, as will appear from the accompanying report of Lieutenant-Colonel Andrews. Major Latimer having reported to me that the exhausted condition of his horses and men, together with the terrible fire of the enemy's artillery, rendered his position untenable, he was ordered to cease firing and withdraw all of his pieces excepting four, which were left in position to cover the advance of my infantry.

In obedience to an order from the lieutenant-general commanding, I then advanced my infantry to the assault of the enemy's strong position—a rugged and rocky mountain, heavily timbered and difficult of ascent; a natural fortification, rendered more formidable by deep intrenchments and thick abatis—Jones' brigade in advance, followed by Nicholls' and Steuart's. General Walker was directed to follow, but reporting to me that the enemy were advancing upon him from their right, he was ordered to repulse them and follow on as soon as possible.

The opposing force was larger and the time consumed longer than was anticipated, in consequence of which General Walker did not arrive in time to participate in the assault that night.

By the time my other brigades had crossed Rock Creek and reached the base of the mountain, it was dark. His skirmishers were driven in, and the attack made with great vigor and spirit. It was as successful as could have been expected, considering the superiority of the enemy's force and position. Steuart's brigade, on the left, carried a line of breastworks which ran perpendicular to the enemy's main line, captured a number of prisoners and a stand of colors, and the whole line advanced to within short range, and kept up a heavy fire until late in the night. Brigadier-General Jones and Colonel Higginbotham, Twenty-fifth Virginia, were wounded in this assault, and the command of Jones' brigade devolved upon Lieutenant-Colonel Dungan.

Early next morning, the Stonewall Brigade was ordered to the support of the others, and the assault was renewed with great determination. Shortly after, the enemy moved forward to recapture the line of breastworks which had been taken the night previous, but was repulsed with great slaughter. Daniel's and Rodes' brigades (Colonel [E. A.] O'Neal commanding), of Rodes' division, having reported to me, two other assaults were made; both failed. The enemy were too securely intrenched and in too great numbers to be dislodged by the force at my command.

In the meantime, a demonstration in force was made upon my left and rear. The Second Virginia Regiment, Stonewall Brigade, and Smith's brigade, of Early's division, were disposed to meet and check it, which was accomplished to my entire satisfaction. No further assault was made; all had been done that it was possible to do.

I held my original position until 10 o'clock of the night of the 3d, when, in accordance with orders, I withdrew to the hill north and west of Gettysburg, where we remained until the following day, in the hope that the enemy would give us battle on ground of our own selection.

My loss in this terrible battle was heavy, including some of the most valuable officers of the command.

Maj. J. W. Latimer, of Andrews' battalion, the "boy major," whose chivalrous bearing on so many fields had won for him a reputation to be envied by his seniors, received a severe wound on the evening of the 2d, from the effects of which he has since died.

Maj. B. W. Leigh, my chief of staff, whose conscientious discharge of duty, superior attainments, and noble bearing made him invaluable to me, was killed within a short distance of the enemy's line.

Maj. H. K. Douglas, assistant adjutant-general, was severely wounded while in the discharge of his duties, and is still a prisoner.

My orderly, W. H. Webb, remained with me after being severely wounded. His conduct entitles him to a commission.

Fewer wounded from my division were left in the hands of the enemy than from any other division of the army; for which I am indebted to the active exertions of Chief Surg. R. T. Coleman.

Mr. E. J. Martin, my volunteer aide-de-camp, rendered valuable service by his prompt transmission of orders, and Maj. E. L. Moore faithfully performed his duties as assistant inspector-general.

The troops are much indebted to Majs. T. E. Ballard and G. H. Kyle, of the commissary department, for supplies during the trying period covered by this report. Cattle and flour were frequently procured within the enemy's lines.

All of the officers and men of the division who came under my observation during their three days' exposure to the enemy's incessant fire of musketry and artillery from the front and artillery from the left and rear behaved as brave men.

For particular instances of gallantry, I have the honor to refer you to the reports of brigade and regimental commanders, herewith transmitted.

I take pleasure in bearing testimony to the gallantry of Brigadier-General Daniel and Colonel O'Neal, and to Brigadier-General [William] Smith, and their brigades, while under my command.

We marched on the 5th across the mountain, by Waynesborough, toward Hagerstown, and remained for a few days within 3 miles of the latter place. Thence the division moved 2½ miles from Hagerstown, and formed line of battle on both sides of and perpendicular to the Hagerstown and Williamsport pike.

On the night of the 13th, I recrossed the Potomac 1 mile above Williamsport, and continued the march next day to within 4 miles of Martinsburg; thence to Darkesville on the 15th, where we remained until ordered to return to Martinsburg, to destroy the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and repel an advance of the enemy. This done, the division by steady marches recrossed the Blue Ridge at Front Royal, and went into camp near Orange Court-House about August 1.

DOCUMENT 12 OF 21 · CULP’S HILL, CONFEDERATE SIDE

Report of Brig. Gen. George H. Steuart, C.S. Army, commanding brigade

Dated	September 2, 1863
Source	Official Records, Series I, Vol. 27, Part 2, Steuart’s brigade report
Printed pages	509–511
Packet pages	42–44

About this report

Steuart’s brigade carried part of the Union breastworks on Culp’s Hill. The report covers the advance across Rock Creek, the capture of the works, and the night.

About this excerpt

P. 509 opens with Steuart’s June 18 flag report; the report on Gettysburg begins below it. Pp. 510–511 also cover July 3.

HEADQUARTERS STEUART'S BRIGADE,
June 18, 1863.

MAJOR: No flags were captured in the recent battle near Winchester, by the Third North Carolina Regiment and by the Tenth Virginia. Four stand of colors were captured by the First North Carolina, of which one was given to Lieutenant [William P.] Zollinger, Company A, First Maryland Battalion Infantry, as officer of the guard at court-house in Winchester, and there left by him. One was taken by members of the Fourth Brigade, under the circumstances stated in the accompanying report. Two were turned over at these headquarters, and are hereby turned over to division headquarters—one a common flag. It is not known from whom the flags were captured. The other two regiments of the brigade were not engaged.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEO. H. STEUART,
Brigadier-General.

Maj. B. W. LEIGH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Johnson's Division.

—

HEADQUARTERS STEUART'S BRIGADE,
September 2, 1863.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by my brigade in the battle of Gettysburg:

We reached the battle-field of July 1 toward evening of that day, and, marching through a part of the town and along the Gettysburg and York Railroad, formed line of battle to the northeast, our front facing the south and our left wing in a skirt of woods. The Fourth and Second Brigades were on our right, the Stonewall on our left. We slept on our arms that night.

At about 3 p. m. the following day, the enemy's and our own batteries opened fire, and the shelling was very heavy for several hours. The brigade, however, suffered but little, being protected by the woods and behind rising ground. Our pickets, which had been stationed 300 yards in front of our line the night previous, were relieved at about 5 o'clock by four companies of skirmishers from the Twenty-third Virginia, and shortly afterward the brigade was formed in line of battle and moved forward.

The hill where the enemy was strongly intrenched, and from which we were ordered to drive him, lay in a southwesterly direction from our position, and accordingly our left wing was obliged to swing around by a right half-wheel, and the brigade thus formed front toward the west by south. The enemy's skirmishers fell back rapidly as we advanced through the fields and across Rock Creek, they suffering slightly, and inflicting little or no injury. The right wing of the brigade crossed the creek considerably in advance of the center and left wing, owing to the fact that the order to move by a right half-wheel was not immediately understood on the left, and also to the greater number of natural obstacles to be overcome by that part of the brigade. The slope of the hill above referred to at the point where the brigade crossed the creek commences about 50 feet from the bank, and, being thickly wooded, the charge of our right wing was made under great disadvantages. The Third North Carolina and First Maryland Battalion, which were now entirely separated

from the rest of the brigade, advanced up the hill, however, steadily toward the enemy's breastworks, the enemy falling slowly back. Our loss was heavy, the fire being terrific and in part a cross-fire.

The order was now given by the major-general commanding to advance our left wing as rapidly and as steadily as possible, which was done as soon as the regiments composing it could be hurried across the creek. The left of the brigade now rested very near one line of the enemy's breastworks, which extended up the hill at right angles to the creek and then parallel with it on the summit. The enemy's attention being called more especially to our right, this fortification was not occupied in force. The Twenty-third Virginia accordingly, under Lieutenant-Colonel [S. T.] Walton, immediately charged the work, and scattered the enemy which was behind it. This regiment then filed to the right, until it reached the portion of the breastworks which was at right angles to the part first captured. Forming in line on the flank and almost in rear of the enemy, there stationed, it opened fire upon them, killing, wounding, and capturing quite a number. The Thirty-seventh and Tenth Virginia and First Maryland Battalion then came to the assistance of the Twenty-third Virginia, and fully occupied the works. The Third North Carolina still maintained its former exposed position, although its ammunition was nearly exhausted, notwithstanding the fact that the men had sought to replenish their cartridge-boxes from those of the wounded and dead. The First North Carolina, which had been kept in reserve, was at this crisis led by Lieutenant McKim to its support.

The brigade, with the exception of the two North Carolina regiments, was then formed in line of battle between the captured breastwork and a stone wall on the left of and parallel to it, from which position it was enabled to open a cross-fire upon the enemy, doing considerable execution. More, however, might have been done had not the impression at this time prevailed that we were firing upon our friends, and the fire been discontinued at intervals. To ascertain the true state of the case, the Tenth Virginia, under Colonel [E. T. H.] Warren (which was on our extreme left, and had formed a line at and perpendicular to the stone wall above referred to), changed front forward to the wall, and then moved by the left flank along it until it was supposed the regiment had gained the enemy's rear, when it opened fire, and drove that part of the enemy's line back.

Finding, however, the enemy in its own rear, as evinced by their fire, the regiment was compelled to change front to the rear and perpendicular to the wall, from behind which it repulsed a bayonet charge made by a regiment of the enemy which emerged from a wood on the left of the stone wall. The enemy not renewing the attack, the brigade was ordered back to the works, where it was formed in line of battle, the First Maryland Battalion on the right and Tenth Virginia on the left, the North Carolina regiments still remaining outside the breastworks. This reconnaissance, as well as the reports of scouts and the statements of prisoners, gave us the assurance that we had gained an admirable position. We had been but a short time behind the breastworks when at least two regiments advanced from the woods to the left of the works, and opened fire upon us, but they were soon driven back.

The prisoners and wounded were sent a little to the rear, and our sufferers received such attention as could be given them by Dr. [D.] Snowden, assistant surgeon of the Maryland battalion.

The whole command rested from about 11 p. m. till about daylight, [3d], when the enemy opened a terrific fire of artillery and a very heavy fire of musketry upon us, occasioning no loss to the brigade, excepting to the First Maryland Battalion and Third North Carolina, which in part alternated positions behind the breastworks. The First North Carolina, with the exception of four companies which had been stationed as a picket on the other side of the creek, was at this time formed to the left of the brigade.

At about 10 a. m. the Tenth Virginia was ordered to deploy as skirmishers, and clear the woods on our left of the enemy's skirmishers. This was done, and the enemy was discovered in the woods, drawn up in line of battle, at not over 300 yards from the west of the stone wall.

The brigade then formed in line of battle at right angles to the breastwork in the following order: Third North Carolina, First Maryland Battalion, Thirty-seventh Virginia, Twenty-third Virginia, and First North Carolina, and charged toward the enemy's second breastworks, partly through an open field and partly through a wood, exposed to a very heavy fire of artillery and musketry, the latter in part a cross-fire. The left of the brigade was the most exposed at first, and did not maintain its position in line of battle. The right, thus in advance, suffered very severely, and, being unsupported, wavered, and the whole line fell back, but in good order. The enemy's position was impregnable, attacked by our small force, and any further effort to storm it would have been futile, and attended with great disaster, if not total annihilation.

The brigade rallied quickly behind rocks, and reformed behind the stone wall which ran parallel to the breastworks, where it remained about an hour, exposed to a fire of artillery and infantry more terrific than any experienced during the day, although less disastrous. Ultimately, in accordance with orders from the major-general commanding, the brigade fell back to the creek, where it remained during the rest of the day, nearly half of it being deployed as skirmishers.

During the night, the enemy advanced their line some distance beyond the breastworks, but were driven back to them again. Toward midnight, the brigade, with the rest of the division, recrossed the creek, and, passing to the rear of the town, occupied and intrenched itself on the crest of the hill where the enemy had been posted on the first day of the engagement.

It affords me the greatest pleasure to say that the officers and men of the brigade, with a few exceptions of the latter, conducted themselves most gallantly, and bore the fatigue and privations of several days in a soldierlike manner.

The commanding officers of the different regiments of the brigade—Colonel Warren, Tenth Virginia; Lieutenant-Colonel Walton, Twenty-third Virginia; Major Wood, Thirty-seventh Virginia; Lieutenant-Colonel Brown, First North Carolina; Major Parsley, Third North Carolina, and Lieutenant-Colonel Herbert, First Maryland Battalion Infantry, who was dangerously wounded the evening of the 2d, his successor, Major [W. W.] Goldsborough, also severely wounded next morning, and Capt. J. P. Crane, upon whom the command of the battalion finally devolved—handled their regiments with great skill and manifested the utmost coolness.

The following officers and non-commissioned officers are mentioned in the regimental reports as deserving of great praise for their coolness and bravery: Adjt. T. C. James, Third North Carolina, dan-

DOCUMENT 13 OF 21 · EAST CEMETERY HILL, UNION SIDE

Report of Maj. Gen. Oliver O. Howard, U.S. Army, commanding Eleventh Corps

Dated	August 31, 1863
Source	Official Records, Series I, Vol. 27, Part 1, Howard’s corps report
Printed pages	705–706
Packet pages	46–47

About this report

Howard’s account of the evening of July 2 on Cemetery Hill: the attack on Ames’s position, the arrival of reinforcements, and the resumption of the old line at 9:30 p.m.

About this excerpt

P. 701 carries the report’s heading. Pp. 702–704 cover July 1; p. 707 onward is not reproduced.

true, after hard fighting, yet they secured and held the remarkable position which, under the able generalship of the commander of this army, contributed to the grand results of July 2 and 3.

This day's battle cost us many valuable lives. Major-General Reynolds, a noble commander and long a personal friend, fell early in the action. Lieut. B. Wilkeson, a young officer of exceeding promise, was mortally wounded while in command of Battery G, Fourth U. S. Artillery. Brigadier-Generals Barlow and Paul were severely wounded. For mention of other distinguished officers killed or wounded, I would refer to reports of corps, division, and brigade commanders.

Major Osborn, commanding artillery of Eleventh Corps, reports that his artillery dismounted five of the enemy's guns, which were left on the field. He lost one of his own, which had been dismounted in the action.

I am conscious of an inability to do justice to the operations of the First Corps, never having received a single report from it. Doubtless the general commanding it gives directly and in full sufficient data to enable the commanding general to appreciate its noble behavior as well as its terrible sacrifices.

On the morning of July 2, about 3 a. m., the commanding general, who had previously arrived, met me at the cemetery gate, questioned me about the preceding day, and rode with me over the position then held by our troops. I expressed my opinion strongly in favor of the position. The general replied that he was glad to hear me speak thus, for it was too late to leave it. The Eleventh Corps was disposed with its center near the Baltimore pike—the First Division, General Ames, on the right; Third Division, General Schurz, in the center, and the Second Division, General Steinwehr, on the left. The batteries of the First and Eleventh Corps were united, being put in position with regard to the kind of gun. Colonel Wainwright, chief of artillery First Corps, took charge of all batteries to the right of the pike; Major Osborn, of the Eleventh, all batteries in the cemetery grounds to the left of the pike.

Very little occurred while the other corps were coming into position until about 4 p. m. Just before this, orders had been issued to the division commanders to make ready for battle, as the enemy were reported advancing on our left. Now the enemy opened from some dozen batteries to our right and front, bringing a concentrated fire upon our position. The batteries of Wainwright and Osborn replied with great spirit. Artillery projectiles often struck among the men, but in no case did a regiment break, though suffering considerably.

About 6.30 p. m. I sent word to General Meade that the enemy's batteries on our extreme right had been silenced or withdrawn. After the cannonading had ceased, and the enemy's infantry attack upon the left had been repulsed, another attack, said to be by Rodes' division, commenced between 7 and 8 p. m., beginning between Generals Slocum and Wadsworth, and extending along the front of Ames to the town of Gettysburg. A brigade of General Schurz's division was ordered to support General Ames. Another brigade of General Schurz pushed to the support of General Wadsworth, upon his right. Afterward General Greene, of the Twelfth Corps, came and thanked me for the good service done by this brigade. Lieutenant-Colonel [August] Otto, of General Schurz's staff, present with with it, was highly commended.

The attack was so sudden and violent that the infantry in front of Ames was giving way. In fact, at one moment the enemy had got within the batteries. A request for assistance had already gone to headquarters, so that promptly a brigade of the Second Corps, under Colonel Carroll, moved to Ames' right, deployed, and went into position just in time to check the enemy's advance. At Wiedrich's battery, General Ames, by extraordinary exertions, arrested a panic, and the men with sponge-staffs and bayonets forced the enemy back. At this time he received support from General Schurz. Effective assistance was also rendered at this time by a portion of General Steinwehr's command at points where the enemy was breaking through. This furious onset was met and withstood at every point, and lasted less than an hour.

At 9.30 p. m. the old position was resumed by the regiments of my corps, Colonel Carroll remaining between Ames and Wadsworth. Lest another attack should be made, Ames' position was further strengthened by the One hundred and sixth Pennsylvania Regiment, from the Second Corps. At the moment my left was weakened, as also at other times during the engagements, General Newton was ready with re-enforcements from the First Corps.

July 3, at 5 a. m., heavy infantry firing commenced on the right. It continued with more or less severity until after 10 a. m. Neither the artillery nor infantry of the Eleventh Corps were much engaged. Occasionally an attempt was made by the enemy to put batteries in position, and some shots were fired. He always received a prompt reply from our batteries, and failed to receive any advantage.

At about 1 p. m. a terrific cannonade opened upon us from the west, northwest, north, and northeast, hurling into the cemetery grounds missiles of every description. Shells burst in the air, in the ground to the right and left, killing horses, exploding caissons, overturning tombstones, and smashing fences. There was no place of safety. In one regiment 27 were killed and wounded by one shell, and yet the regiments of this corps did not move excepting when ordered.

At 2.30 p. m. we ceased our artillery fire. Soon after, the enemy's artillery also ceased, when a line of his infantry appeared, emerging from the woods upon Seminary Ridge, his left nearly opposite our front, and the line extending far to the left. Our batteries again opened fire, using shells at first. The gaps made by them seemed to have no effect in checking the onward progress of the enemy. Still his line advanced steadily, gaining ground gradually toward his right. When near our line of skirmishers, the batteries opened upon them with grape and canister from the hill. The infantry also commenced firing. The enemy's lines were broken, and the plain in our front was covered with fugitives running in every direction. Colonel Smith's brigade, of General Steinwehr's division, was pushed to the left and front, to the support of the First Corps, moving forward. At this time great numbers of prisoners were taken, in which this portion of the Second Division bore a part.

This was the last attack made by the enemy at the battle of Gettysburg. During the night he withdrew his entire force to and beyond Seminary Ridge.

Were I to accord praise to individuals, I would hardly know where to begin or where to end. I noticed Generals Schurz, Steinwehr, Schimmelfennig, and Ames; Colonels Orland Smith, Coster, Krzyzanowski, and von Gilsa, commanding brigades; also Major Osborn, commanding the artillery, and his battery commanders, and com-

Report of Brig. Gen. Adolph von Steinwehr, U.S. Army, commanding Second Division, Eleventh Corps

Dated	August 30, 1863
Source	Official Records, Series I, Vol. 27, Part 1, Report No. 250
Printed pages	722
Packet pages	49

About this report

Steinwehr's report (p. 722) describes the Louisiana brigade's charge at about 9 p.m. on his First Brigade and Wiedrich's battery.

About this excerpt

The opening of Steinwehr's report (p. 720) and p. 721 (July 1) are not reproduced.

tery Hill. Our position now was quite strong, the infantry being placed partly behind stone fences, and forming with our batteries a front fully able to resist an attack of even greatly superior forces. The occupation of this hill by our corps had great influence upon the further progress and the final result of the battle.

July 2.—The morning passed off quietly, while the other corps of our army arrived on the battle-field.

At about 4 p. m. the enemy's batteries opened a heavy fire upon our position, which lasted for two hours. This was particularly severe upon Cemetery Hill, as we were exposed here to a concentrated fire from nine batteries. Our artillery vigorously replied, and silenced several of the enemy's pieces. Our infantry was posted behind stone fences surrounding the hill, and suffered but little from the enemy's artillery.

My division formed the left wing of the corps, fronting north, excepting the Thirty-third Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, who were detailed to support General Ames' brigade, on the right, fronting northeast.

At about 9 p. m. the Louisiana Brigade (Tigers) made a vigorous charge upon the First Brigade of my division, and Wiedrich's battery. Colonel Coster's brigade, and particularly the Twenty-seventh Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, Colonel Cantador, repulsed them.

Several rebels succeeded in reaching Wiedrich's battery, but were driven back by the cannoneers themselves.

During the night, the skirmishers of Colonel Smith's brigade were attacked several times, but succeeded in repelling the enemy every time.

July 3.—During this day the battle raged principally on the right and left wings of our army; my division, occupying, with slight changes, the same position as the day before, was not attacked.

At 2.30 o'clock the enemy again opened a terrific artillery fire upon our hill, which lasted until 4 p. m.

In regard to our loss, I would respectfully refer to the report previously forwarded. The First Brigade lost heavily; the Second Brigade had during the last two days over 300 men killed and wounded, principally of the Seventy-third Ohio Volunteers, by the enemy's sharpshooters, who fired from several buildings of the town at a great distance but with remarkable accuracy.

The division behaved gallantly, repelling every attack of the enemy, and standing unmoved under the heavy artillery fire of the last two battle days.

The commanders of my two brigades—Col. Orland Smith, Seventy-third Ohio Volunteers, and Col. Charles R. Coster, One hundred and thirty-fourth New York Volunteers—have assisted me very materially, both executing my orders with zeal, and exposing themselves freely. They have shown themselves able and gallant soldiers.

Of my staff I can also speak in terms of praise. Capt. F. W. Stowe, assistant adjutant-general of this division, was on the last day severely wounded in the head by a piece of shell.

Very respectfully, yours,

A. VON STEINWEHR,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

Maj. Gen. O. O. HOWARD,
Commanding Eleventh Corps.

Report of Col. Samuel S. Carroll, commanding Brigade, Second Division, Second Corps

Dated	July 5, 1863
Source	Official Records, Series I, Vol. 27, Part 1, Report No. 116
Printed pages	456–458
Packet pages	51–53

About this report

Carroll’s brigade was sent from the Second Corps line to Howard’s support. His report is on pp. 456–458.

About this excerpt

P. 456 opens with the end of the previous report; Carroll’s heading is at the foot of the page.

save the slight wounding of 1 man. The enemy retired to the cover of his earthworks.

During the night, the remainder of the division, Second and Third Brigades, was ordered forward to the support of the First. Formed line of battle, and on the following day (12th) changed position twice. During the night threw up earthworks, line connecting on the right with the Fifth Corps, and on the left with the Second Division of the Second Corps.

On July 13, moved forward half a mile. Again formed line of battle, supported on the flanks by same troops as the previous day. Employed during the afternoon and evening intrenching our line. Some picket firing, without any loss to my command.

On July 14, advanced toward Williamsport, Md.

On July 15, marched from Williamsport, via Sharpsburg, Md., to Sandy Hook, Md.

July 16 and 17, encamped near Sandy Hook, Md.

On July 18, crossed the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers; marched to near Hillsborough, Va.; and encamped.

On July 19, marched to Woodgrove, Va.

On July 20, marched to Bloomfield, Va., and encamped until 22d, when the march was resumed to Ashby's Gap, Va.

On July 23, marched to Markham Station, on the Manassas Gap Railroad. Same evening, with the corps, moved to the support of the Third Corps, which was engaged with the enemy on Wapping Heights. Took position behind Third Corps.

On July 24, returned to Markham Station.

On July 25, marched to White Plains, Va.

On July 26, resumed the march, arriving near Warrenton Junction, Va., same day, where we remained encamped July 27, 28, and 29.

Respectfully submitted.

ALEX. HAYS,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Division.

Capt. E. P. BROWNSON,
Aide-de-Camp, and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

No. 116.

Report of Col. Samuel S. Carroll, Eighth Ohio Infantry, commanding First Brigade.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., THIRD DIV., SECOND CORPS,
Two Taverns, Pa., July 5, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the brigade which I have the honor to command in the battle of Gettysburg:

On the 2d instant, by command of Brigadier-General Hays, commanding division, the brigade was formed in line of regiments, right in front, between Woodruff's battery on the left and the Taneytown road on the right, at about 8 a. m.

An hour afterward an order was received from the same source to send four companies to the front as a support to the skirmishers already there, who seemed to be hard pressed, and four companies from the Fourth Ohio Volunteers were sent out. They kept up a brisk

interchange of shots with the enemy's skirmishers. At 12 m. those four companies were relieved by two others from the same regiment.

About 1 p. m. the enemy opened upon our position with shell, and fired a dozen or two rounds. Immediately afterward their skirmishers commenced to advance and ours to retire. At this juncture, an order was received from the brigadier-general commanding division to send my leading regiment to their support, and I immediately took the Eighth Ohio out some 200 yards to the front, directing Lieutenant-Colonel Sawyer, commanding, to advance two companies deployed as skirmishers and relieve those of the Fourth Ohio Volunteers, and to maintain his position at all hazards, as he would be supported by the rest of the brigade.

About 6 p. m. the enemy opened a severe artillery fire upon the Second and Third Brigades, of this division, on the left of Woodruff's battery, advancing their infantry at the same time in their front, when orders were received from the brigadier-general commanding to move three regiments (Fourteenth Indiana, Fourth Ohio, and Seventh West Virginia) by the left flank, and take position on the left of the Second Brigade, which was executed under a heavy discharge of shot, shell, and musketry. This position was retained but a few minutes when orders were received from the same source to return with two regiments to the old position, which was done, leaving the Fourth Ohio on the left of the Second Brigade.

About dark, I received orders through Major Norvell, adjutant-general of the division, to move immediately to the assistance of part of the Eleventh Corps supporting batteries on Cemetery Hill, as they were being driven back, and the enemy were charging those batteries, and that I would be conducted by an aide of General Howard's. Moved immediately with three regiments, the Fourteenth Indiana leading. We found the enemy up to and some of them in among the front guns of the batteries on the road. Owing to the artillery fire from our own guns, it was impossible to advance by a longer front than that of a regiment, and it being perfectly dark, and with no guide, I had to find the enemy's line entirely by their fire. For the first few minutes they had a cross-fire upon us from a stone wall on the right of the road, but, by changing the front of the Seventh West Virginia, they were soon driven from there. The firing continued until about 10.20, when they fell back out of range, and skirmishers were advanced in our front. General Ames' division then made connection with me on our right and left.

This position we maintained until the 5th. We were exposed to a great deal of cross-firing during the heavy cannonading of the 3d, and kept up occasional skirmishing with the enemy up to the evening of that date, besides being annoyed by sharpshooters from the town, who had a flank fire upon us. The Eighth Ohio retained their position in front of the extreme right of the corps until after the severe fighting of the 3d, when they were relieved, after being in front over twenty-four hours, and receiving the first of the attack of the 3d, and maintaining their position until the line of the enemy was up with them, when they changed front, and opened fire on their flank, charging them and inflicting great damage.

Too much credit cannot be given to both the officers and men of that regiment, as well as their gallant leader, Lieut. Col. Franklin Sawyer, and Captain Kenny, acting major. I commend in the same terms the officers and men of the other three regiments, who, throughout the whole time, acted with soldierlike coolness and cour-

age, as they always do. I would mention by name Col. J. Coons, Lieutenant-Colonel Cavins, and Major Houghton, Fourteenth Indiana; Lieutenant-Colonel Carpenter, commanding, and Major Stewart, Fourth Ohio, and Lieutenant-Colonel Lockwood, Seventh West Virginia Volunteers, the only field officers present, for gallant and meritorious conduct on the field.

My thanks are due to my staff, Lieut. J. G. Reid, Eighth Ohio Volunteers, acting assistant adjutant-general; Capt. J. E. Gregg, acting assistant inspector-general; Capt. S. Fiske, Fourteenth Connecticut, aide-de-camp; Lieut. J. H. Carr, Fourth Ohio Volunteers, aide-de-camp, and Lieutenant Van Dyke, Fourteenth Indiana, for their valuable assistance in a trying emergency.

Captain Willard, Fourteenth Indiana Volunteers, with his pioneer corps, worked most untiringly, caring for the wounded, burying the dead, and collecting arms and accouterments from the field, and were under fire while the brigade was. Captain Craig, Eighth Ohio, commanding provost guard, was busied in assisting the pioneer corps, taking charge of and turning over prisoners.

My adjutant, Lieutenant Reid, had his horse shot on the night of the 3d.

The Eighth Ohio took 3 stand of colors and the Fourteenth Indiana 1.

The brigade captured 252 prisoners, among them several field and general officers; also cared for 113 wounded, most of them rebels, and buried 37 rebel dead. The pioneer corps gathered from the field 349 stand of arms and accouterments. All our wounded were moved from the field to the hospital and our own dead buried.

I append herewith a summary of casualties in this brigade,* and inclose reports of commanders of regiments and detachments.

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

S. S. CARROLL,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Maj. J. M. NORVELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 117.

Report of Col. John Coons, Fourteenth Indiana Infantry.

NEAR GETTYSBURG, PA., *July* 5, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by this regiment in the action of July 2 and 3:

The regiment was moved forward with our brigade on July 2, to support Woodruff's battery, which was in position near the center of our line of battle. A lively skirmish was kept up all the morning in our front by the skirmishers detailed from the other regiments of our brigade.

At 4.30 p. m. the enemy opened upon our position with artillery; their fire was heavy and continuous.

At 6 o'clock I was ordered to support the Eighth Ohio, which had been detailed as skirmishers. A report then came that General Howard's position, on the right center, was attacked in force by the enemy.

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*Embodied in revised statement, p. 176.

Report of Maj. Thomas W. Osborn, First New York Light Artillery, commanding artillery, Eleventh Corps

Dated	July 29, 1863
Source	Official Records, Series I, Vol. 27, Part 1, Report No. 264
Printed pages	749
Packet pages	55

About this report

Osborn’s account of the Eleventh Corps and Cemetery Hill batteries, July 1 and 2, including the evening attack.

About this excerpt

Pp. 747–748 and 750 onward are not reproduced; p. 750 and later cover the cannonade of July 3 and belong to Part 8.

rotts; Battery C, First West Virginia Artillery, Captain Hill, four 10-pounder Parrotts; Battery H, First Ohio Artillery, Captain Huntington, six 3-inch rifles; Second Maine Battery, Captain Hall, four 3-inch rifles; First New Hampshire Battery, Captain [Edgell] six 3-inch rifles. Total, 32.

Heckman's battery having been sent to the rear and one gun of Wheeler's battery dismounted, gave us on the morning of the 2d a total of fifty-two guns.

In the morning, before General Slocum had occupied his position, and while he was doing so, I placed three batteries on the right of the Baltimore road, commanding the ravine between the two prominent hills on our right; yet, as General Slocum withstood every assault on his lines without assistance, later in the day I withdrew these batteries to the hill. As soon as the enemy developed the position he would probably occupy with his batteries, I placed mine in position commanding them. By the assignment on the hill, Dilger had the right, resting next the Baltimore road and parallel with the Emmitsburg road; on his left, and in order, were Bancroft, Eakin, Wheeler, Hill, and Hall, commanding the enemy's batteries to the right of the town; and across the Baltimore road I placed Taft in rear of and perpendicular to Bancroft; also Huntington in rear of and perpendicular to Wheeler, but farther in the rear of Wheeler than Taft was of Bancroft, so that Taft's battery would not obstruct his line of fire.

By this assignment of artillery, I commanded with a reputable number of guns every point on which the enemy could place artillery commanding Cemetery Hill. I also occupied every point of the hill available for artillery, and during the engagement every gun, at different times, was used with good effect, and the fire of no one gun interfered with the fire of another. A sharp curve in the side of the hill also afforded good and convenient protection for the caissons. Most of the day the firing of the enemy's artillery was irregular, they scarcely opening more than one battery at a time, and when they did so we readily silenced them.

On our entire front the enemy held a fine crest for the protection of artillery, at a distance of 1,000 to 1,400 yards from us; but at the time the heavy attack was made on the extreme left of our line, the firing was very severe, and especially upon the hill. They engaged the greater portion of our whole line, and from both the right and left of the town much of the fire was concentrated on our position, but we soon gained a decided advantage over them, and long before the infantry struggle on the left was decided, we had silenced most of their guns.

In this artillery fire, Lieutenant Eakin was wounded in the hip, and carried from the field.

Between 7 and 8 o'clock in the evening, a rebel brigade charged from the town upon the hill and upon Captain Wiedrich's battery. The charge was very impetuous, and the infantry at first gave way, and the battery was held for a moment by the enemy, when the cannoneers rallied with the infantry, and, seizing upon any weapons they could reach, threw themselves upon the enemy, and assisted to drive them back. All was done that could be, both before and after the repulse of the enemy, by the use of canister upon their ranks.

Colonel Wainwright speaks in highly complimentary terms of both officers and men for their gallant conduct on this occasion. Although the command was much exhausted by the two days' work, most of

Reports of Capt. Michael Wiedrich, Battery I, 1st New York Light Artillery, and Lieut. William Wheeler, 13th New York Battery

Dated	Not dated on the pages reproduced
Source	Official Records, Series I, Vol. 27, Part 1, Reports Nos. 265 and 266
Printed pages	751–752
Packet pages	57–58

About this report

The batteries on East Cemetery Hill. Wiedrich’s battery was the one the Louisiana brigade reached on the evening of July 2.

About this excerpt

P. 751 opens with the end of Osborn’s report.

even asked of it; without their assistance I do not conceive how I could have maintained the position we held. I feel most thankful for their assistance, and the very willing and cordial manner in which it was rendered.

I would also speak of Lieut. George W. Freeman, acting assistant adjutant-general of the command, for the great assistance he was to me and to the whole command during the engagement.

I am unable to give any definite estimate of the amount of ammunition expended during the engagement. After we had exhausted the supply with the batteries, I replenished from our train. Colonel Wainwright, on the p. m. of the 1st, also replenished from our train, and, after this source was exhausted, I drew from the reserve train of the army.

The casualties of this command are as follows.*

Our loss in pieces and horses is as follows:

	Horses killed.
Battery G, Fourth U. S. Artillery	31
Battery I, First Ohio Artillery (one piece disabled)	28
Battery K, First Ohio Artillery (one piece lost)	9
Battery I, First New York Artillery (one piece dismounted)	18
Thirteenth New York Independent Battery (one piece dismounted)	12
Total	98

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. W. OSBORN,

Major, Commanding Artillery, Eleventh Corps.

General HENRY J. HUNT,

Chief of Artillery, Army of the Potomac.

No. 265.

Report of Capt. Michael Wiedrich, Battery I, First New York Light Artillery.

———, ——— —, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to report to you the part my battery has taken in the battle of Gettysburg, July 1, 2, and 3.

On arriving on the 1st instant near the cemetery at Gettysburg, I was ordered by you to take position on a hill on the north side of the Baltimore turnpike, and near the cemetery and east of the city.

During the afternoon, we had some skirmishing with a rebel battery which was posted near the road leading from Gettysburg to York.

When, about 5 p. m., our infantry, which had advanced through the town, was repulsed, I changed the direction of my pieces in the direction from where the enemy was advancing, and opened with shells on their columns with good effect; and after our infantry was driven out of the town, and the enemy made his appearance in our front, I received him with canister, which checked his progress, and gave our troops time to rally in rear of the battery, to advance on the enemy again, and to drive him back into town, when the fire was kept up until late in the evening.

Thursday, July 2, from early in the morning until about 3 p. m., we exchanged some shots with two rebel batteries planted directly in front of mine, at which time the battle became general, when my

* Embodied in revised statement, p. 183.

battery was exposed to the fire of two of the enemy's batteries, the one before mentioned and one in our left flank on the west side of the city, but did not sustain much damage from either of them. Only one shell struck one of my pieces and dismounted the same.

About 8 p. m. the enemy charged on the battery with a brigade of infantry, which succeeded in turning our infantry, and got into the intrenchments of my battery. After they were repulsed by our forces, I opened on them again with canister with good effect.

Friday, we had several artillery duels during the forenoon, but of short duration, as we silenced their batteries after a few rounds as often as they brought them against us, until about 1 p. m., when the battle became general, and the enemy brought all his guns to bear on our lines. My battery was exposed again to the same cross-fire as the day before, but without sustaining any loss whatever from those guns. All the loss we sustained was from their sharpshooters, who were secreted in the houses of the town, and who molested us continually for two days.

During the three days' fighting we held the position first taken. Our losses are 3 men killed, 2 severely and 9 slightly wounded.* Among the latter are Lieutenants Sahm and Stock.

I am happy to say that all the officers and men behaved well, and with a determination not to be excelled.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. WIEDRICH,
Captain, Comdg. Battery I, First New York Artillery.

Major OSBORN, *Chief of Artillery, Eleventh Corps.*

No. 266.

Report of Lieut. William Wheeler, Thirteenth New York Battery.

WARRENTON JUNCTION, VA., *July* 29, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor herewith to transmit a detailed report of the part taken by the Thirteenth New York Battery in the battle of July 1, 2, and 3, at Gettysburg, Pa.

On July 1, I marched from Emmitsburg with the Second Division (General Steinwehr), but, when within about 5 miles of Gettysburg, I was ordered to move forward at double-quick, which I did, proceeding at a rapid trot, and losing a large amount of forage from the roughness of the road.

Upon arriving at Gettysburg, I took position, by your order, on the right of the town, but soon received orders to move through the town to the front, and to support Captain Dilger's battery. In passing through the town, the rear body of two of my caissons broke down. One of these was subsequently recovered, but the other was too badly shattered to be repaired. I took up my position on Captain Dilger's right, and as soon as my guns had got the range of the hostile battery, they responded to it with good effect. Under their cover, Captain Dilger moved several hundred yards forward into a wheat-field. As soon as he commenced firing, I limbered up and followed, again taking position on his right. A very heavy fire was opened on us here both in front and upon the right flank, but we continued to hold the position.

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*But see revised statement, p. 183.

DOCUMENT 18 OF 21 · EAST CEMETERY HILL, CONFEDERATE SIDE

Report of Maj. Gen. Jubal A. Early, C.S. Army, commanding division

Dated	Not dated on the pages reproduced
Source	Official Records, Series I, Vol. 27, Part 2, Early’s division report
Printed pages	469–471
Packet pages	60–62

About this report

Early’s account of the advance of Hays’s and Avery’s brigades on the evening of July 2, Gordon’s support, and Avery’s fall.

About this excerpt

Pp. 467–468 (the march) and 472 onward are not reproduced.

commanded by Brigadier-General Barlow, of the Federal Army, and drove it back with great slaughter, capturing, among a number of prisoners, General Barlow himself, who was severely wounded. Gordon advanced across the creek, over the hill on which Barlow had been posted, and across the fields toward the town, until he came to a low ridge, behind which the enemy had another line of battle, extending beyond his left. I directed him to halt here, and then ordered Hays and Avery, who had been halted on the east side of Rock Creek while I rode forward to where Gordon had been engaged, to advance toward the town, on Gordon's left, which they did in fine style, encountering and driving back into the town in great confusion the second line of the enemy.

Hays' brigade entered the town, fighting its way, and Avery moved to the left of it across the railroad, and took his position in the fields on the left, and facing Cemetery Hill, which here presented a very rugged ascent. This movement was made under the fire of artillery from this hill, which had previously opened when my artillery had first opened its fire, but Avery succeeded in placing his men under the cover of a low ridge which here runs through the fields from the town. Hays' brigade was formed in line in the street running through the middle of the town.

A very large number of prisoners were captured in the town, and before reaching it, their number being so great as really to embarrass us. Two pieces of artillery (Napoleons) were also captured outside of the town, the capture being claimed by both brigades; but it is unnecessary to decide which reached these pieces first, as the capture was unquestionably due to the joint valor of both brigades.

While these operations were going on with my division, I saw, farther to the right, the enemy's force on that part of the line falling back and moving in comparatively good order on the right of the town toward the range of hills in the rear, and I sent back for a battery of artillery to be brought up to open on this force and the town, from which a fire was opened on my brigades, but before it got up, my men had entered the town, and the force on the right had retired beyond reach. I had at the same time sent an order to General Smith to advance with his brigade, but he thought proper not to comply with this order, on account of a report that the enemy was advancing on the York road.

As soon as my brigades had entered the town, I rode into that place myself, and, after ascertaining the condition of things, I rode to find General Ewell and General Rodes, or General Hill, for the purpose of urging an immediate advance upon the enemy before he should recover from his evident dismay, in order to get possession of the hills to which he had fallen back with the remnant of his forces; but before I found either of these officers, General Smith's son, who was acting as his aide, came to me with a message from the general, stating that a large force of the enemy, consisting of infantry, artillery, and cavalry, was advancing on the York road, and that we were about to be flanked; and though I had no faith in this report, I thought proper to send General Gordon with his brigade to take charge of Smith's also, and to keep a lookout on the York road, and stop any further alarm.

Meeting with an officer of Major-General Pender's staff, I sent word by him to General Hill that if he would send up a division, we could take the hill to which the enemy had retreated; and shortly after meeting with General Ewell, I communicated my views to him,

and was informed that Johnson's division was coming up, and it was determined with this division to get possession of a wooded hill to the left of Cemetery Hill, which it commanded; but this division arrived at a late hour, and its movement having been delayed by the report of the advance on the York road, no effort to get possession of the wooded hill on the left of the town was made that night.

Having been informed that a large portion of the rest of our army would come up during the night, and that the enemy's position would be attacked on the right and the left flanks very early next morning, I gave orders to General Hays to move his brigade under cover of night from the town into the field in front of the left of the town, to a place where he would not be exposed to the enemy's fire, and would be in position to advance upon Cemetery Hill when a favorable opportunity should occur. This movement was made, and Hays formed his brigade on the right of Avery and just behind the extension of the low ridge on which the town is located. The attack did not begin in the morning, as was expected, and in the course of the morning I rode with General Ewell to examine a position for the artillery on the left.

Having been subsequently informed that the attack would begin at 4 p. m., I directed General Gordon to move his brigade to the railroad in rear of Hays and Avery, Smith being left, under General J. E. B. Stuart, to guard the York road. The fire from the artillery having opened on the right and left at 4 o'clock, and continued for some time, I was ordered by General Ewell to advance upon Cemetery Hill with my two brigades that were in position as soon as General Johnson's division, which was on my left, should become engaged at the wooded hill on the left, which it was about to attack, information being given me that the advance would be general, and made also by Rodes' division and Hill's divisions on my right.

Accordingly, as soon as Johnson became warmly engaged, which was a little before dusk, I ordered Hays and Avery to advance and carry the works on the heights in front. These troops advanced in gallant style to the attack, passing over the ridge in front of them under a heavy artillery fire, and then crossing a hollow between that and Cemetery Hill, and moving up this hill in the face of at least two lines of infantry posted behind stone and plank fences; but these they drove back, and, passing over all obstacles, they reached the crest of the hill, and entered the enemy's breastworks crowning it, getting possession of one or two batteries. But no attack was made on the immediate right, as was expected, and not meeting with support from that quarter, these brigades could not hold the position they had attained, because a very heavy force of the enemy was turned against them from that part of the line which the divisions on the right were to have attacked, and these two brigades had, therefore, to fall back, which they did with comparatively slight loss, considering the nature of the ground over which they had to pass and the immense odds opposed to them, and Hays' brigade brought off four stand of captured colors.

At the same time these brigades advanced, Gordon's brigade was ordered forward to support them, and did advance to the position from which they had moved, but was halted here because it was ascertained that no advance was made on the right, and it was evident that the crest of the hill could not be held by my two brigades supported by this one without any other assistance, and that the attempt would be attended with a useless sacrifice of life. Hays' and Hoke's

brigades were reformed on the line previously occupied by them, and on the right and left of Gordon, respectively.

In this attack, Colonel Avery, of the Sixth North Carolina Regiment, commanding Hoke's brigade, was mortally wounded. With this affair the fighting on July 2 terminated.

After night, I was ordered by General Ewell to send Smith's brigade to report to General Johnson, on the left, by daylight, and General Smith was ordered to do so, and did report to General Johnson, and his three regiments were engaged on the 3d on the extreme left, under General Johnson's directions.

As the operations of this brigade on this day were under the immediate orders of General Johnson, I will merely refer to the report of Colonel [John S.] Hoffman, the present brigade commander, herewith forwarded.

Before light on the morning of the 3d, I ordered Hays' and Hoke's brigades (the latter now under the command of Colonel [A. C.] Godwin, of the Fifty-seventh North Carolina Regiment) to the rear, and subsequently formed them in line in the town on the same street formerly occupied by Hays, Gordon being left to occupy the position which was occupied by these brigades on the previous day. In these positions these three brigades remained during the day, and did not again participate in the attack, but they were exposed during the time to the fire of sharpshooters and an occasional fire from the enemy's artillery on the hills.

At 2 o'clock on the morning of the 4th, my brigades were quietly withdrawn from their positions, and moved back on the Cashtown road, and formed in line on both sides of that road, in rear of Rodes' and Johnson's divisions, which occupied the front line, running along the crest of the ridge on the west of the town.

My loss in the three days' fighting at Gettysburg was 158 killed, 796 wounded, and 227 missing, a large proportion of the missing being, in all probability, killed or wounded. The enemy's loss at the points where the three brigades of Gordon, Hays, and Hoke were engaged far exceeded my loss, and a very large number of prisoners were secured.

THE MARCH BACK FROM GETTYSBURG, AND RECROSSING OF THE POTOMAC.

At 2 o'clock on the morning of the 5th, under orders from General Ewell, my division moved back on the road toward Fairfield, following in the rear of the corps, and constituting the rear guard of the whole army.

While waiting at the junction of the road on which I had moved with the direct road from Gettysburg to Fairfield for the passage of all the troops and trains, a few pieces of artillery were opened by the enemy at long range, but without doing any damage. The whole force having gotten on the road in front of me, I moved on slowly in the rear, Gordon's brigade bringing up my rear, followed by White's cavalry battalion, and on arriving in view of Fairfield, which is situated in a wide and low plain surrounded by hills, I found the wagon trains in front blocked up. While waiting here for the road to be cleared, Colonel White sent forward to inform me that a force of the enemy was advancing in the rear, and I sent forward to hasten up the trains, but as they did not move off, I was preparing to fire a blank cartridge or two for the purpose of quickening their pace, when the advance of the enemy appeared on a hill in my rear, and

Report of Brig. Gen. Harry T. Hays, C.S. Army, commanding brigade

Dated	August 3, 1863
Source	Official Records, Series I, Vol. 27, Part 2, Hays’s brigade report
Printed pages	480–482
Packet pages	64–66

About this report

Hays commanded the Louisiana brigade. He gives the time of the advance, the works and guns taken on the hill, and why he withdrew.

About this excerpt

This is the Confederate Hays. The Union general Alexander Hays also appears in the Official Records; they are different men.

My loss this day was small—1 officer and 6 men killed, 4 officers and 37 men wounded, and 15 men missing. The loss of the enemy cannot be known with exactness, but it was apparent from an inspection of the field that his loss exceeded ours by at least six to one.

Having driven the enemy entirely out of the city, I rested my line on one of the upper southern streets, Hoke's brigade, on my left, extending beyond the eastern suburbs. In this position I remained until 12 o'clock that night. At that hour I received an order from Major-General Early to make a reconnaissance of the ground between my situation and that of the enemy, who, after abandoning the city, had intrenched himself on Cemetery Hill, a commanding height, one of a series or chain of hills belting Gettysburg on the south.

After a careful examination of the locality indicated, about 2 o'clock in the morning (July 2) I moved my troops into an open field between the city and the base of a hill intervening between us and Cemetery Hill, throwing out skirmishers to the front. In this field we remained the entire day of July 2, prominently exposed to the fire of the enemy's skirmishers and sharpshooters. During the afternoon of this day, I was directed by Major-General Early to hold my brigade in readiness at a given signal to charge the enemy in the works on the summit of the hill before me, with the information that a general advance of our entire line would be made at the same time.

A little before 8 p. m. I was ordered to advance with my own and Hoke's brigade on my left, which had been placed for the time under my command. I immediately moved forward, and had gone but a short distance when my whole line became exposed to a most terrific fire from the enemy's batteries from the entire range of hills in front, and to the right and left; still, both brigades advanced steadily up and over the first hill, and into a bottom at the foot of Cemetery Hill.

Here we came upon a considerable body of the enemy, and a brisk musketry fire ensued; at the same time his artillery, of which we were now within canister range, opened upon us, but owing to the darkness of the evening, now verging into night, and the deep obscurity afforded by the smoke of the firing, our exact locality could not be discovered by the enemy's gunners, and we thus escaped what in the full light of day could have been nothing else than horrible slaughter.

Taking advantage of this, we continued to move forward until we reached the second line, behind a stone wall at the foot of a fortified hill. We passed such of the enemy who had not fled, and who were still clinging for shelter to the wall, to the rear, as prisoners. Still advancing, we came upon an abatis of fallen timber and the third line, disposed in rifle-pits. This line we broke, and, as before, found many of the enemy who had not fled hiding in the pits for protection. These I ordered to the rear as prisoners, and continued my progress to the crest of the hill.

Arriving at the summit, by a simultaneous rush from my whole line, I captured several pieces of artillery, four stand of colors, and a number of prisoners. At that time every piece of artillery which had been firing upon us was silenced.

A quiet of several minutes now ensued. Their heavy masses of infantry were heard and perfectly discerned through the increasing darkness, advancing in the direction of my position. Approaching within 100 yards, a line was discovered before us, from the whole length of which a simultaneous fire was delivered. I reserved my

fire, from the uncertainty of this being a force of the enemy or of our men, as I had been cautioned to expect friends both in front, to the right, and to the left, Lieutenant-General Longstreet, Major-General Rodes, and Major-General Johnson, respectively, having been assigned to these relative positions; but after the delivery of a second and third volley, the flashing of the musketry disclosed the still-advancing line to be one of the enemy.

I then gave the order to fire; the enemy was checked for a time, but discovering another line moving up in rear of this one, and still another force in rear of that, and being beyond the reach of support, I gave the order to retire to the stone wall at the foot of the hill, which was quietly and orderly effected. From this position I subsequently fell back to a fence some 75 yards distant from the wall, and awaited the further movements of the enemy.

Only contemplating, however, to effect an orderly and controlled retreat before a force which I was convinced I could not hope to withstand—at all events, where I then was—I was on the point of retiring to a better position when Captain [John G.] Campbell, the brigade quartermaster, informed me that Brigadier-General Gordon was coming to my support.

I immediately dispatched an officer to hasten General Gordon with all possible speed, but this officer returning without seeing General Gordon, I went back myself, and finding General Gordon occupying the precise position in the field occupied by me when I received the order to charge the enemy on Cemetery Hill, and not advancing, I concluded that any assistance from him would be too late, and my only course was to withdraw my command. I therefore moved my brigade by the right flank, leading it around the hill, so as to escape the observation of the enemy, and conducted it to the right of my original position, then occupied, as above stated, by Gordon's brigade. This was about 10 o'clock. I remained in this position for the night.

About daybreak in the morning, I received an order from Major-General Early to withdraw my command from its position, and to occupy that street in the city which I had held during July 1. I continued to remain here that day (the 3d), and until early in the morning of July 4, when I was ordered by Major-General Early out of the city to a range of hills on the west. Here I put my brigade in line of battle, the division line being on the left of Major-General Rodes.

In this position I remained with my command until 2 o'clock on the morning of July 5, when the line of march was taken toward Hagerstown, Md.

My loss was:

Officers and men.	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Total.
July 2:				
Officers	5	15	3	23
Enlisted men	16	104	38	158
July 3:				
Officers	1	3	1	5
Enlisted men	7	37	18	62
July 4:				
Officers	.....	.....	.....	.....
Enlisted men	.....	.....	20	20
Total	29	159	80	268

Total loss: 7 officers and 29 men killed, 22 officers and 178 men wounded, and 4 officers and 91 men missing. The missing, I fear, were either killed or wounded.*

The artillery captured on the heights of Cemetery Hill I was compelled to abandon. The prisoners sent to the rear, being under charge of no guard, escaped in the darkness; 75 were brought back by my men in retreating from the hill. The colors taken I have now in my possession.

In all the operations in the neighborhood of Gettysburg, I am happy to state that both officers and men, while animated with a spirit of daring that disdained to concede any obstacle to their progress unsurmountable, were yet amenable to all the orders of their leaders, and accepted readily any position assigned them.

While rendering this tribute to the merit of all my command, I would call attention particularly to the efficiency of Cols. L. A. Stafford, Ninth Louisiana Regiment, and D. B. Penn, Seventh Louisiana Regiment. In the engagements of July 1 and 2, each of these officers distinguished himself by an exhibition of gallant bearing in leading his respective regiment into action, and of soldierly skill in its management and control.

My thanks are due to the several members of my staff, each of whom in his respective department was attentive to the discharge of his duties; Captain New, assistant adjutant-general and acting inspector; Captain Seymour, assistant adjutant-general, and Lieutenant Freeland, aide-de-camp.

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

HARRY T. HAYS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Maj. JOHN W. DANIEL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Early's Division.

No. 473.

Report of Col. Archibald C. Godwin, Fifty-seventh North Carolina Infantry, commanding Hoke's brigade.

HEADQUARTERS HOKE'S BRIGADE,
July 30, 1863.

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the action of Hoke's brigade in the late campaign from Fredericksburg into Maryland and Pennsylvania, and back into Virginia:

From the commencement of the campaign to the night of July 2, the brigade was commanded by Col. I. E. Avery, Sixth Regiment North Carolina troops, General Hoke not having recovered from the effects of a severe wound received at the battle of Chancellorsville. Colonel Avery left no memoranda of the operations of his command, and this fact must serve to account for the meager and imperfect details of this report.

Leaving camp near Hamilton's Crossing on June 4, the brigade reached Culpeper Court-House on the 8th; encamped near Gaines' Cross-Roads on the 11th, and, by a forced march on the 12th, passed through Chester Gap to Front Royal, and forded both branches of the Shenandoah.

On June 13, the division having reached the vicinity of Winchester,

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*See also p. 340.

Reports of Col. Archibald C. Godwin, Fifty-seventh North Carolina, commanding Hoke’s brigade, and Maj. Samuel McD. Tate, Sixth North Carolina

Dated	Godwin, July 30, 1863; Tate, July 8, 1863
Source	Official Records, Series I, Vol. 27, Part 2, Reports Nos. 473 and 474
Printed pages	484–485
Packet pages	68–69

About this report

Godwin took command of Hoke’s brigade after Colonel Avery fell, and his report covers the attack and the fighting on the hill. Tate’s is an informal letter to Governor Vance from the Sixth North Carolina’s commanding officer; it describes the fight on the heights and Colonel Avery’s death.

About this excerpt

Godwin’s heading is at the foot of p. 482, in the Hays excerpt; p. 483 (the march) is not reproduced. Godwin’s report ends at the top of p. 485, where Tate’s letter begins; the rest of Tate’s letter (p. 486 onward) is not reproduced.

Tate writes that his letter “cannot be exactly an official document.”

On July 1, we advanced upon Gettysburg, along the Heidlersburg road, and, when distant one mile and a half from the town, line of battle was formed on the left of the road, the right resting on Hays' brigade. The brigade at this time consisted of three regiments—the Sixth (commanded by Major [Samuel McD.] Tate), the Twenty-first (by Colonel [W. W.] Kirkland), and the Fifty-seventh (by Colonel Godwin), the Fifty-fourth having been sent back to Staunton with Federal prisoners captured at Winchester.

Skirmishers were deployed in front of our lines, and at 3 p. m. the order to advance was received. The enemy had formed line of battle on the hillside in front of the town, under cover of a strong fence, portions of which were made of stone. Our advance was made with great deliberation until we approached a sluggish stream, or slough, about 200 yards in front of the enemy's lines, when the batteries opened upon us with grape and canister, seconded by a very destructive fire from the infantry.

Colonel Avery now gave the order to double-quick, and the brigade gallantly dashed through the stream and up the hill to the fence, the enemy stubbornly holding their position until we had climbed over into their midst. Two Napoleon guns were taken by the Sixth North Carolina. A large number of prisoners taken at this point were sent to the rear. The enemy now fled into the town, many of them being killed in the retreat.

The brigade continued to advance toward the town, but, while yet in the outskirts, was wheeled to the left and reformed on the railroad. The enemy had now succeeded in planting a battery upon a high, sloping spur on the mountain side immediately in our front. Under cover of the railroad cut, we were moved by the left flank about 400 yards to the left, and again moved forward. The shells from the enemy proving very effective, we were soon after halted in a depression on the hillside, and the men ordered to lie down. Skirmishers were thrown forward, and this position held through the night and until 8 p. m. on the next day, July 2, when the brigade moved forward to the attack.

As soon as the summit of the hill was gained, it was discovered that the batteries which we had been ordered to take were in front of Hays' brigade, and considerably to the right of our right flank. We continued to advance, however, under a terrific fire, climbed a rail fence, and still farther beyond descended into a low bottom, and dislodged a heavy line of infantry from a stone wall running parallel with our front. The enemy's batteries now enfiladed us, and a destructive fire was poured into our ranks from a line of infantry formed in rear of a stone wall running at a right angle with our line of battle and immediately below the batteries.

Colonel Avery now ordered a change of front, and succeeded in wheeling the brigade to the right, a movement which none but the steadiest veterans could have executed under such circumstances. In swinging around, three stone walls had to be surmounted. The ground was rocky and uneven, and these obstacles prevented that rapidity of movement and unity of action which might have insured success. The men now charged up the hill with heroic determination, and drove the enemy from his last stone wall. In this charge, the command had become much separated, and in the darkness it was now found impossible to concentrate more than 40 or 50 men at any point for a farther advance. Major Tate, with a portion of the Sixth North Carolina Regiment, aided by a small number of the

Ninth Louisiana Regiment, succeeded in capturing a battery on the right. No supports were at hand, and the approach of the enemy in overwhelming force compelled him to retire. The scattered fragments of the brigade now withdrew, and were reformed near the position which it had occupied through the day.

Here I learned for the first time that our brigade commander (Col. Isaac E. Avery), had been mortally wounded. In his death the country lost one of her truest and bravest sons, and the army one of its most gallant and efficient officers.

In the desperate struggle through which we had just passed, the officers and men of Hoke's brigade fulfilled all the expectations which their gallantry on former occasions had excited. No body of men of equal number could have accomplished greater results against such overwhelming odds.

The command of the brigade now devolved upon me, and before daylight, by order of Major-General Early, I moved into position in the railroad cut on the outskirts of the town. Later in the day, I was ordered to form on the left of Hays' brigade, in one of the upper streets of the town, and in advance of the position on the railroad.

At 2 a. m. on the morning of July 4, by order of Major-General Early, I moved the brigade by the right flank to a position west of Gettysburg, and formed line of battle on the left of Hays' brigade. This position was maintained throughout the day.

At 2 a. m. on the morning of the 5th, the brigade moved off with the division in the direction of Hagerstown.

I respectfully beg leave to call your attention to the action of the Fifty-fourth North Carolina Regiment in the engagement at Williamsport, Md., on July 5. A full report of the operations of this regiment by Colonel [Kenneth M.] Murchison is herewith submitted.

For a list of casualties in the late campaign, reference is respectfully made to the reports heretofore submitted.*

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. C. GODWIN,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Maj. JOHN W. DANIEL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Early's Division.

No. 474.

Report of Maj. Samuel McD. Tate, Sixth North Carolina Infantry.

IN BIVOUAC, NEAR HAGERSTOWN, MD.,
July 8, 1863.

MY DEAR GOVERNOR: Excuse the necessity of writing with pencil, and the familiarity with which I address you; but moments are precious, and while I am yet spared I must hasten to perform a sacred duty to you as the honored head of North Carolina, and to her brave citizen soldiers, especially those under my command. The great reason for this is the fact that it was North Carolinians only who succeeded in entering the enemy's works at Gettysburg; that our brigade commander was slain, and we have no friends who will tell of our success on the night of July 2, because all but the Sixth Regiment failed.

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* See also p. 340.

APPENDIX · APPENDIX

Return of Casualties in the Union forces, commanded by Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, at Gettysburg, July 1–3, 1863

Dated	Not dated
Source	Official Records, Series I, Vol. 27, Part 1, Return No. 13
Printed pages	176
Packet pages	71

About this report

The volume’s revised casualty statement, by corps, division and brigade. P. 176 gives the 1st Minnesota (Harrow’s brigade).

About this excerpt

The table runs from p. 173 to p. 187; only p. 176 is reproduced. A footnote on p. 173 reads “Also includes losses in skirmishes, July 4.”

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

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Captured or missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	
First Brigade.							
Brig. Gen. WILLIAM HARROW. Col. FRANCIS E. HEATH.							
Staff	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1
19th Maine	1	28	11	159	.....	4	203
15th Massachusetts	3	20	8	89	.....	28	148
1st Minnesota*	3	47	14	159	.....	1	224
82d New York (2d Militia)	3	42	12	120	1	14	192
Total First Brigade	10	137	46	527	1	47	768
Second Brigade.							
Brig. Gen. ALEXANDER S. WEBB.							
69th Pennsylvania	4	36	8	72	2	15	137
71st Pennsylvania	2	19	3	55	3	16	98
72d Pennsylvania	2	42	7	139	.....	2	192
106th Pennsylvania	1	8	9	45	.....	1	64
Total Second Brigade	9	105	27	311	5	34	491
Third Brigade.							
Col. NORMAN J. HALL.							
19th Massachusetts	2	7	9	52	.....	7	77
20th Massachusetts	2	28	8	86	.....	3	127
7th Michigan	2	19	3	41	.....	.....	65
42d New York	.....	15	6	49	.....	4	74
59th New York	.....	6	3	25	.....	.....	34
Total Third Brigade	6	75	29	253	.....	14	377
Unattached.							
1st Company Massachusetts Sharpshooters	.....	2	.....	6	.....	.....	8
Total Second Division	25	319	105	1,097	6	95	1,647
THIRD DIVISION.							
Brig. Gen. ALEXANDER HAYS.							
First Brigade.							
Col. SAMUEL S. CARROLL.							
14th Indiana	.....	6	3	22	.....	.....	31
4th Ohio	2	7	1	16	.....	5	31
8th Ohio	1	17	10	73	.....	1	102
7th West Virginia	.....	5	1	40	.....	1	47
Total First Brigade	3	35	15	151	.....	7	211
Second Brigade.							
Col. THOMAS A. SMYTH. Lieut. Col. FRANCIS E. PIERCE.							
14th Connecticut	.....	10	10	42	.....	4	66
1st Delaware	1	9	10	44	1	12	77
12th New Jersey	2	21	4	79	.....	9	115
10th New York (battalion)	.....	2	.....	4	.....	.....	6
108th New York	3	13	10	76	.....	.....	102
Total Second Brigade	6	55	34	245	1	25	366

*2d Company Minnesota Sharpshooters attached.