

Report of Capt. Joe Norcross, Fourth Company,
Battalion Washington Artillery of Operations
May 5-21.

CONFIDENTIAL

66m. Fred. Book in possession of
Col. Miller-Owen, New Orleans.

J.W.

Fourth Company, Washington Artillery,
Swift Creek, May 25, 1864.

Colonel: I respectfully submit the following report of the part sustained by the battery of the Fourth Company under my command in the recent engagements around Petersburg and Richmond:

On Thursday, 5th instant, three guns of my battery of Napoleons were sent to Battery No. 5 to guard the City Point road; the other gun by order of Major Owen was turned over to First Company, Capt. E. Owen, and 9 of my horses to Captain Richardson, Second Company. I remained at Battery No. 5 without anything occurring until Wednesday, 8th instant, when I marched in obedience to your order at 8.30 a.m., crossing the Appomattox and moved down the turnpike to the tollgate. Here I halted until 3 o'clock and then in rear of Kemper's brigade my battery moved toward Richmond. At 10 o'clock Thursday morning, 12th instant, went into battery at Halfway house, it being reported that the enemy were advancing. At 1 o'clock by your order moved back to first line of fortifications. *After entering the fortification* I moved down to the right of line and placed my guns in position; two of them in works on Mr Wooldrige's farm and the other, under Lieutenant Apps, further to the right, in the railroad cut. On Friday afternoon, at or about 4 o'clock, the

enemy having flanked the fortifications on my right, by your order, I moved my guns out on the road to await orders. About 6 o'clock moved into our second line of works, distributing my guns as follows: One gun under command of Lieut. H. A. Battles in a work to the right of Clingan's brigade; ① gun under Lieut. G. E. Apps in work with General Corse's brigade, and ② gun under Lieut. William J. Behan in work to the left of Ransom's brigade. In the works occupied by Lieutenant Battles and Apps were the following guns which were put in requisition by some of my non-commissioned officers and privates: ② iron 6-pounders in work of Lieutenant Battles were manned by Sergeant Fish, Corporal McDonald, and Quartermaster-Sergeant Hale, and in that occupied by Lieutenant Apps was a rifle gun (3-inch) and howitzer. The rifle gun was well served by Sergt. John C. Wood and a squad of men from the different detachments. On Saturday the enemy annoyed us very much, their sharpshooters having advanced to within 450 yards of our lines. At night they endeavored to storm but were easily repulsed, Lieutenant Battles giving them from his gun a few rounds of canister. My loss this day was 3 killed, 2 wounded and 1 bruised; also several horses killed and 8 or 10 wounded. Sunday was occupied in watching and firing an occasional shot at the skirmishers in our front. On Monday, as instructed we opened briskly upon the lines of the enemy massing on our front. This fire was continued until the charge was made by our men. I was unable to follow the infantry, they having commenced to fall back by the time my horses were hitched up. Here I beg to state that owing to the severity of the fire from the sharpshooters of the enemy, I was obliged to send my horses some distance to place them under cover as it would have endangered them all by keeping them in works *which* that were enfiladed on all sides.

My men while in these works were busily occupied every night strengthening the works and building traverses to protect themselves from the enfilading fire poured into the works day and night, by the sharpshooters. On Monday afternoon the enemy being driven from our front, I reported to General E. R. Johnson, halted for the night about one mile from turnpike. On Tuesday morning about 5 o'clock placed two guns in position under Lieutenant Battles near Cheatham's House and shelled the woods for an hour. Moved on about 7 o'clock down the turnpike and road to Bermuda

Hundred in rear of Clinchman's brigade, and placed guns again in position on the old stage road and at night threw up fortifications, my men working all night. At 12 o'clock Wednesday, by order of General Hoke, sent Lieutenants Battles and Behan to the front with one section. They remained there until dark shelling the enemy's line and keeping back their skirmishers. Lieutenant Battles had his section complimented by General Hoke, who was with them part of the time, for their fine shooting. On Thursday morning at 3 o'clock moved two guns under Lieutenant Apps to the pits in the field the left of Mrs Clay's house. They returned about dark to their former position, having fired over 100 rounds of ammunition. Friday morning again sent my battery to the position occupied by them the preceding day; we did not open fire but were ordered back about 10 o'clock. I remained in position until Saturday morning when I was relieved by Captain Miller's battery, and moved down the turnpike to Dunn's Hill.

To Lieutenants Battles, Apps, and Behan I am under many obligations, for their assistance and the readiness displayed at all times to discharge their various duties. To the non-commissioned officers and men too much praise cannot be given. They had but little rest for ten days, night or day, yet performed

their various duties at all times with cheerfulness and alacrity.

I have to regret the loss of 4 good killed, viz: Corpl. G. McDonald, Privates E. A. Mallard, John Foulks, and E. Coudon; also 4 wounded, viz: Serjt. J. B. Valentine, Privates Martin, A. Norcom and Hood; 1 bruised by horse falling, Private John Sheckler. My loss in horses sums up 7 killed and 11 wounded.

My battery fired during these various engagements 585 rounds shot case and shell, of the iron 6-pounder, the ammunition being mixed and partly damaged, we kept no account of the number of rounds fired.

Very respectfully,

Joe Norcom,

Captain, Commanding Fourth Company, Battalion Washington Artillery.

Lieut. Col. B. F. Eshleman,

Commanding Battalion Washington Artillery.

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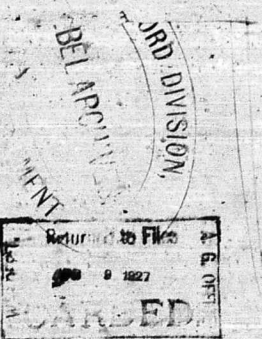
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Report of
Operations and Casualties
of the 6th Va. Cavalry
on road at East of Jonesville
Jan 3rd 1864



U. S. A.

Unrecovered



No. 6.
Report of Capt A. S. Porcena, 84th Va. Cavalry 178

Was sent by Capt. Porcena
Jan 3rd 1864

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Capt. Martin
H. A. Lee

Capt.

On the morning of 3rd Jan. I received an order from Brig. Gen. W. C. Gillem to join the army on the north of the road at Jonesville. Having received double orders I proceeded to Jonesville occupied by about 20 companies of Cavalry. I found the town in possession of the Rebels and opened fire. As the Rebels were in possession of the town and knowing my firing the force of intentions of Gen. Porcena I dispatched him and awaited his further orders.

In a few minutes I received through a staff officer an order to attack the enemy (most driven by the force behind them) to the position on a high hill west of town. As the Rebels were in possession of the valley nearly just as they were of the hill. I found Capt. Candell with 100 of the 8th Va. Cavalry making my whole strength about 230 men. I commenced firing at the Rebels. Capt. Candell of the left wing of the line commenced to advance. I advanced and shot as we passed field number four. I then dismounted and moved to within 400 yards of the enemy but not entering and opened as well directed fire on the front. After a few rounds I observed that his lines might be easily struck. I then advanced and the Rebels were having Maj. Richmond that of the left and Capt. Candell mine I had with me about 80 men. I soon took possession of a small ridge in the