

30

Camp at Fair Oaks Station June 3/62

1st Lieut G. W. Scott 61st N. I. 706  
Actg. Asst. Adj. Genl. 1st Brigade Richardson's Div  
Vir.

At four a. m. of June 1st 1862 in obedience to orders from Genl. Comdy. Brigade this Regt. was formed in close column of Division in the field to the north of the R. Rd. at Fair Oaks Station Va. The Regt. numbered 375 men in the ranks 43 Sergeants full dress Col. Lt Col. Adj. & 15 Comp<sup>ts</sup> officers

At about 7 a. m. we were moved to the R. Rd and formed in line of battle thrown facing the south without right resting about one quarter of a mile east of the station. Immediately on our left was the 64th N. I. 7. The two other Regts of this Brigade were not in sight. The firing in the woods in our front was very brisk and we were immediately ordered by the Genl. Comdy. the Brigade to advance. We advanced into a woods of tall trees thickly interspersed with an undergrowth of young oaks which rendered it impossible for us to see to any great distance before us. The ground in some places was muddy and marshy. After advancing some 150 yds we came upon the 53rd Reg. Penn. Inf. Col. Brooks, formed in line and quickly engaging the enemy. I requested Col. Brooks to cease firing that we might pass in front of and relieve him. This was done and we at once advanced upon the enemy who were drawn up in line before us and who kept up a heavy fire. After advancing some 25 yds beyond Col. Brooks' Regt. I halted the Regt. and fired one or two rounds. The enemy fell back, firing out of sight among the thick undergrowth. Not willing to deliver our fire until we could see those opposed to us. I ordered the Regt. to cease firing, which command was promptly obeyed. We then

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8  
moved forward in excellent order some 150 yds. meeting with a heavy fire but not seeing the enemy with sufficient distinctness to warrant, for my own part, our halting and renewing the fire. On arriving upon the crest of a hill within some 20 yds of the main road running parallel to the R.R. and directed opposite the camp of Casey's Divn, which the enemy had occupied the Battalion was halted the enemy being plainly in sight by the road side and at once opened fire receiving a very heavy one in return. This continued for a considerable time when it was then that our principal loss occurred. They

drove the enemy back and he ceased firing when we could no longer see the enemy and his fire had become slackened, we ceased firing and directed my men to sit down rest. I considered it unwise to advance farther as there were no fore Regts. on our flanks and we were considerably in advance of the line in our rear and were liable to be taken rear or out flanked by the enemy coming up the road if we passed beyond it.

We renewed fire several times until we could see that the woods and camp in our front were clear of the enemy for a considerable distance. We renewed fire several times until we could see that the woods and camp in front were clear of the enemy for a considerable distance, when we finally ceased and they did not again appear in our front.

Finding that our flanks were not supported I sent Capt. [Name] upon our line which he did scarcely any firing. It was done after his arrival, but lines were reformed and the men rested. A tremendous fire was opened upon us from the rear which would have been murderous had we not avoided the bullet.

lying down. During this fire I despatched my  
Lieut. Gregory to carry information of our po-  
sition and ask for orders in as much as there was  
no enemy in our front for us to work upon. We re-  
sisted from firing to the rear in return although it  
had been reported to me that the enemy were thin; a re-  
port for which I could find no foundation. We lost  
few if any by this fire from the rear. On the return  
Lieut. Gregory with orders from the Genl. Comd. The  
division for us to retire, we marched off in perfect  
order by the road leading to our right and returned  
to the field whence we started.

We were not again engaged, just before we started  
for our return from front I plainly saw a body of  
the enemy advancing obliquely upon our right on the  
southern side of this road. but we had cleared the woods  
before we reached our position, our wounded who  
were left on the ground state that the position was  
immediately after we left it  
The Regt. under my command calmly and faithfully  
performed its duty. A few of the men sometimes com-  
menced firing without orders but my commands to cease  
firing, march, halt &c were readily obeyed under heavy  
fire. A few of the men at times would crouch down  
during firing and crouch to the rear, but were  
brought up again by their officers and were few in num-  
ber. The greater part of the men stood firm and endur-  
ing the firing and only stooped or went down when  
ordered to do so. I did not see one officer shrink or  
fail in his duty, and all were of great value.  
Lieut. Col. Innes & Capt. Russell & Tenor & 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Wren  
& comd. Co. B were all shot dead while doing their duty  
calmly and nobly, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Bergen & 2<sup>d</sup> Lt. Bahr  
& comd. Co. A & D and their only commissioned officers &  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Coustis who took command of Co. C. after the death

Inches 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

of Lt. M<sup>c</sup>Intyre & 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Max of Co. A were wounded very early in the flight & obliged to go to the rear Co. A & B were thus left without Commissioned Officers & were taken charge of by officers of other Companies.

Our loss is over one quarter our strength, as follows:  
Killed 30 - 4 com<sup>d</sup> Officers 26 enlisted men  
Wounded 76 - 4 do do 72 do do  
Missing 6 - enlisted men of whom 4 men and  
Corporal were attending to the wounded & taken prisoners  
in the discharge of their duty. The sixth man Sum  
Major Glaser was taken prisoner while in the woods after  
the action was over, making a total of 112. This Reg. took  
some ten prisoners one of whom was an officer supposed to  
be a Brig. Gen<sup>l</sup>. From these prisoners & from some of our  
wounded I learnt that the force opposed to us was the  
3<sup>rd</sup> Ala. about 1000 strong supported by the 13<sup>th</sup> & 41<sup>st</sup> Va.

At present we have for duty one Col., nine Company  
Officers and 338 enlisted men of whom 17 are drummers. My  
Command thus reduced I have organized into eight Companies,  
each of which has but one Com<sup>d</sup> Officer. The senior Capt.  
of the Regt. being detailed to act as a field Officer.

At an early hour of the day a greater part of two  
companies of the 64<sup>th</sup> Va. I. Co. we collected and joined  
our left and remained with us till the action was  
over.

I have the honor to enclose a list of those killed,  
wounded and missing with the nature of the wounds  
received.

The Regt. was engaged four hours having come  
out of the woods at 11 A.M.

Very Respectfully

(Signed) Francis C. Barlow  
Col. Comd<sup>y</sup> 61<sup>st</sup> Regt. Va. Inf.