Searlesburg 17 Nov

Camp near Martinsburg Va. Sept 28, 1863

To H. L. Benning Co

Conn 1st Brig Adjt. 1st Division

Dear Sir,

I beg to submit to you the following report of my services during the engagement near Searlesburg Mo. on the 1st instant, Oct 17, 1863.

My command, together with 16th La. and 3 companies of the 11th Ga. Regt. were posted as support to the 20th La. and 1st Ga. Regt. who were engaged at the Saw Bridge. They distinguished themselves in the extreme in driving the enemy away who attacked them with vastly superior numbers of infantry. They had batteries which commanded the bridge.

Saw the gallant 20th La. and 1st Ga. Regt. the position until all their ammunition was expended. They then fell back. About this time we were relieved by a portion of General A. P. Hill's Division "as I thought" to go to the support of our own division and to rest at Little for we were worn almost down by fighting Muscato-
in the mean time the enemy were advanc-
ing on the position which we had been
holding. After the position was taken by
those who relieved us, we proceeded to go to
the position where we were ordered. And
while on the march towards the left we were
notified that the enemy were advancing
in strong force, and that our forces which
were posted in their front had after a very
short resistance given way, and left one of
our batteries exposed to the mercy of the
enemy. Of course the gunners were then
compelled to leave, and their condition
was such that 20 or 30 of them were left on the
field. I received an order to bring my com-
mand up in double quick time and en-
gage the enemy which I promptly obeyed.

Never could a man have acted more gal-
lantly than those under my command.

Save a few which I shall thereafter men-
tion. When I reached the field I found
the enemies long lines in position in grand
style. I took position and ordered my
men to open fire upon them— at the same
time to the cool and aim well— which
they did. After a short but decisive engagement.
...the Enemy gave way and we went forward. The battery was then lifted.

We engaged the Enemy about 11 o'clock P. M. and lost several killed and disabled. We drove the Enemy about 1½ miles, and should have still pursued but for the presence of yourself & General H. Thomas who had discovered that the Enemy had batteries on our left and were only waiting for our approach. I must here thank Capt. A. Fowne [act. Lt. Col.] 2d R. M. Mil. for their aid in keeping the men in position and encouraging them during the engagement. Lt. S. B. Pickett acted very gallantly in encouraging the men. I must mention also that those men of Co. A. who went in action gallantly as they remained without a commander Lt. Telfair receiving a wound at the command of the 2d R. M., who came under my immediate notice and who deserve praise for their daring & courage. Ser. Maj. Howell joined Co. B. Capt. Pickering, I McLullough & W. J. Skinner joined of Co. C.
Sgt. S. J. Haire, Capt. C. R. Byng, Co. D, G. N.

Hall from Co. F. Cannon Griffin of Co. F. J. W.

Hutchinson to 16. In fact, it is hard to make any distinction as all were gallant. I will here mention those 10 men of above as reported to me by Company Commanders. Mr.

A. King, A. Darby, B. A. Bell, McFarland, 

C. T. Matthews, privates of Co. A, fell out, and was not seen on the battle-field. B. Bea-

mon, private Co. B, failed to stand to the Colors.

John Key, private Co. C, fell out without per-

ception in the face of the Enemy. M. Edmunds, 

J. P. McVair, private Co. D, not in the battle. Absent 

without leave. A. T. Howell detailed to bring water, not heard from since. M. Donahue, C. Herman, 

privates Co. F, fell out while going to the field and did not report until next day. B. Jackson, 

P. Hendy, private Co. B, failed to deliver to the Colors.

Lt. P. P. Gosnell and Capt. J. R. Blue fell out.

On the way to the field without permission, E. M. 

and W. Wimborg, privates Co. B, detailed to bring water, and did not return until after the fight.

Inc. A. J. McGregor.


Act 4 adj. 17th of Oct.