

THE  
WAR OF THE REBELLION:

A COMPILATION OF THE  
OFFICIAL RECORDS

OF THE  
UNION AND CONFEDERATE ARMIES.

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PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR, BY BVT. LIEUT.  
COL. ROBERT N. SCOTT, THIRD U. S. ARTILLERY,

AND

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encing Thursday, June 26,  
at:

took up the line of march  
halted about 3 a. m. to rest  
e.

de was put in motion for  
p. m., the enemy having  
ridge and fallen back upon  
her brigades of the divis-  
and Mechanicsville, there  
ade, and, in obedience to  
tle in rear of a hedge-row  
y cannonade of shell and  
of their courage for two  
turning a shot; but I am  
his post of duty.

O. Reid, of Company G.  
lle.

rigade of Maj. Gen. A. P.  
ressed on after the enemy  
On approaching Gaines'  
e on the opposite side of  
lding of the bridge. After  
Second Brigade was soon  
on the right, supported  
left, supported by Col-  
upon the enemy, and in  
reated in the direction of

Gregg was again put in  
nd scour the woods and  
g to the enemy's works.  
formed by the brigade as  
to advance given. As  
pine thicket, the charge  
n out, and those we did  
the main battle ground,

where we rested a few  
enemy's positions. The  
in a gallant style opened  
osed two heavy batteries  
and shell into our ranks  
as now formed into line  
Colonel Marshall in the  
Edwards for a support.  
at a double-quick under  
many falling killed and  
marshes, and branches,  
ssion of the brow of the  
ng force were posted.  
to canister, grape, and  
on over our heads be-  
nemy.

battery which had been  
led for the First South

Carolina Volunteer Rifles. I asked what were your orders. You re-  
plied that you wanted me to take a battery, with my regiment, which  
had been playing on our right and drive the enemy back. The battery  
was about 500 yards in that direction, pointing with your hand. I  
replied that I would do it if it were possible.

I placed the two flanking companies, Captains Perrin's and J. J.  
Norton's, 100 yards in front as skirmishers, covering the front of my  
regiment when deployed, and under the command of Captain Perrin.  
I placed Captain Miller's company 50 paces in rear of Captain Perrin's  
to support him, and Capt. Miles M. Norton 50 paces in rear of Capt. J.  
J. Norton to support him. I placed the four companies under com-  
mand of Lieutenant-Colonel Ledbetter in rear of these companies.  
Thus disposed, I placed the six remaining companies, viz, Captains  
Harrison's, Moore's, Cox's, Hennegan's, Hawthorne's, and Hadden's, all  
the captains being present and in command of their respective com-  
panies. Before giving the command to advance I called upon the regi-  
ment to remember the State from whence they came; to put their trust  
in God, and acquit themselves like men.

At this awful moment there was not a quiver nor a pallid cheek,  
nor a disposition to give way on account of feeble health, when there  
were, as I personally know, more than 20 men who had just risen  
from beds of sickness to participate in the battles. There was a calm-  
ness and settled determination on the part of every man to do or die in  
the attempt. I gave the command, "Double-quick, march!" and as  
soon as we had gained the old field, "Charge bayonets," at the same  
time deploying the six remaining companies to the left, supporting the  
entire line of skirmishers.

As soon as we emerged from the pines we were met by a most de-  
structive fire from the enemy in front and on our left, and as soon as  
we had cleared about 100 yards of the old field two heavy batteries on  
our left, about 600 yards off, poured into our ranks a deadly fire of  
grape and canister.

Here it was that my adjutant, Lieut. J. B. Sloan, was shot down at  
my side while gallantly aiding me and urging on the charge of the regi-  
ment. Here also fell Capt. R. A. Hawthorne gallantly leading his com-  
pany. A few paces farther fell Captain Hennegan, another noble spirit,  
leading his company. Close by his side fell his gallant lieutenant  
(Brown), and farther [on] fell the gallant and patriotic Lieut. Samuel  
McFall, and near him fell Sergeant-Major McGee nobly cheering the  
men on to the charge.

My men, although now under three cross-fires, and falling thick and  
fast from one end of the line to the other, never once faltered. Finding  
no battery, they dashed on to the woods in front, where were posted  
seven regiments of the enemy, including the Pennsylvania Reserves.  
Here my men got the first chance to exchange shots. They commenced  
a deadly fire upon the enemy, advancing upon them as they delivered  
the fire, some of the men having it hand-to-hand, clubbing their rifles,  
then dispatching four or five with the bayonet; many taking deadly  
aim through the forks of trees. While this successful movement was  
going on the left wing of my regiment was about being outflanked by  
about 500 New York Zouaves, who came down upon my left in a des-  
perate charge. I looked for my support, but could not see any, and  
then to the left of the field for the other two regiments, but could not  
see either of them, and thus I was left alone contending against seven  
regiments. At this time Lieutenant Higgins gathered around him some  
30 riflemen, who poured into the ranks of the Zouaves such a deadly