

toward night I again moved forward, crossing the pontoon over the Saluda River, near the factory. I encamped in position on the bank of Broad River, near the bridge.

During the night, in accordance with instructions received from the major-general commanding the army corps, a crossing was effected over the river at this place, which, owing to the great width of the stream and the extreme rapidity of the current, was a very difficult task, and between 7 and 8 a.m. the following morning the 3rd Brigade had crossed to the opposite shore, moving over by means of three pontoon-boats, that were with great difficulty towed from one side of the stream to the other, and obtained possession of a good range of hills crossing the main Columbia road, from which it had gallantly driven the rebel skirmishers, capturing 20 of their number. The enemy very soon withdrew in the direction of Columbia., when the mayor of the place came out under a flag and signified to Colonel Stone that the rebels had evacuated the town. He at once moved his brigade in and took possession, the balance of the division following as soon as the pontoon boats were laid across Broad River. I encamped my command just beyond the city, on the east side of the Columbia and South Carolina Railroad, throwing up light works in my front.

It may be proper to state that the troops first entering the city were freely supplied by the citizens with great quantities of intoxicating liquors, so that the confusion inevitable on the entry into a captured city was very materially increased, and at night, in obedience to the orders of the major-general commanding, the brigade on provost duty in the city was relieved by the 1st Brigade of this division, Bvt. BrigGen. William B. Woods commanding. During the evening a fire broke out in the western part of the city, which rapidly spread over that portion of the town, owing to the high winds that swept the flames rapidly from one street to another. At the same time the town was fired in several different places by the villains that had that day been improperly freed from their confinement in the town prison. The town itself was full of drunken negroes and the vilest vagabond soldiers, the veriest scum of the entire army being collected in the streets. Every measure practicable was adopted to prevent the spreading of the fire; but owing to the gale that was sweeping over the place, the absence of any proper water power, and the fact that the city was filled with both citizens and soldiers who were in noways disposed to have the scene closed, it was an almost impossibility to arrest the flames. About one-third of the city was destroyed, including the principal part of the business portion of the place.

During the 18th and 19th instant my command remained at and near Columbia. On the 19th a detailed party from my division destroyed 550 bales of cotton that were stored in the town. In addition to this there were 820 bales found piled up in the streets that were also destroyed.

I append a statement of the amount of property belonging to the Confederate Government that was destroyed.

The casualties in this command were: At the crossing of the Little Congaree, five enlisted men killed and 10 wounded; total, 15. At the crossing of Broad River, one commissioned officer and four enlisted men wounded; total, five. Please see list of casualties annexed. (not found). I shall forward reports of brigade commanders as soon as they are received.

I have the honor, major, to be very respectfully, your obedient servant,
CHAS. R. WOODS, Brevet Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

Inventory of ordnance and ordnance stores captured at Columbia, S. C., Feb. 17, 1865.

Ball cartridges (no caps) ...1, 200, 000

Percussion caps....100, 000

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Powder pounds...26,150
 12-pounder gun ammunition, fixed rounds...1007½
 6-pounder gun ammunition, fixed do...3852
 24-pounder gun ammunition, fixed do...546
 8-inch shot and shell do...2364
 10-inch shot and shell do...1320
 Stands of arms...10,410 Unfinished arms...6000
 6-pounder guns...14 James guns...2
 12-pounder mountain howitzers...5 Blakely guns...4
 18-pounder rifled guns...3 Wiard gun...1
 3-inch rifle...1 10-pounder guns...2
 4-inch gun...1 4-inch mortars2
 6-inch Coehorn...1 Bronze guns, caliber 1 ½ and 2 inches...4
 4-inch gun, smooth-bore...1 10-pounder Parrotts...2
 Repeating battery...1 Gun carriages...9 Gun caissons...14
 Gun (mountain howitzer) caissons...3
 Forges...2 Anvils...4 Blacksmiths' vises...20
 Sponges and rammers...1125
 Sabers, cavalry, artillery and naval ...3100
 Saber knots...700 Pairs cavalry pistol holsters...300½
 Saber belts...800 Bayonet scabbards...4000
 Cartridge-boxes (infantry)...5150 Cartridge-box plates...3500½
 Cartridge-box belts and plates...2500 Waist-belts...2900
 Waist-belt plates...3000 Ball screws...2000
 Pistol cartridge-boxes...550 Gunners' shot-pouches...600
 Knapsacks...1100 Haversacks...900
 Slow match yards 500
 10-inch fuses ...900 Tents...58

PHILIP MACCAHILL, Lt. and Actg. Ordnance Officer, 1st Div., XV Corps

HDQRS. 1ST DIVISION, XV CORPS,
 Near Goldsborough, N. C., March 28, 1865.

MAJOR: I have the honor to respectfully transmit the following report of the operations of my division from the time of leaving Savannah, Ga., in January last, until reaching this point the 24th instant:

In obedience to orders received from Major-General (John A.) Logan, I left my camp near Savannah on Jan. 10, marching that day to Thunderbolt, the point of embarkation, some eight miles distant. The XVII Corps was found to be making use of all the shipping, and it was several days before I obtained control of any of the vessels. In the meantime I constructed two very substantial landings that enabled me to expedite my loading very considerably. It was not until Jan. 17 that my entire division was transferred from Thunderbolt to Beaufort, S. C., and its vicinity (one brigade being out at Garden's Corners). While here all possible preparation was rapidly made for the approaching campaign, and on Jan. 27 I left Beaufort, marching my two remaining brigades out as far as Garden's Corners, where I remained until the morning of Jan. 30, when I moved forward to McPhersonville. I halted here one day, sending back to Pocotaligo for additional supplies. Leaving my camp the next morning, Feb. 1, I marched forward in the direction of Hickory Hill Post-Office, skirmishing light with the enemy's cavalry at this point. I had one man wounded in the skirmish at Hickory Hill. Continuing my march now uninter-