

University of Mississippi

eGrove

---

Correspondence

Civil War Collection

---

1-19-1863

## Letter from "Hd. Qus. Army of No. Va." 19 January 1863

Confederate States of America. Army. Virginia.

Follow this and additional works at: [https://egrove.olemiss.edu/ciwar\\_corresp](https://egrove.olemiss.edu/ciwar_corresp)



Part of the [United States History Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Confederate States of America. Army. Virginia., "Letter from "Hd. Qus. Army of No. Va." 19 January 1863" (1863). *Correspondence*. 231.

[https://egrove.olemiss.edu/ciwar\\_corresp/231](https://egrove.olemiss.edu/ciwar_corresp/231)

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Civil War Collection at eGrove. It has been accepted for inclusion in Correspondence by an authorized administrator of eGrove. For more information, please contact [egrove@olemiss.edu](mailto:egrove@olemiss.edu).



Head Quarters Featherston's Brigade  
Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> 1862

Thos. S. Mills Majt.  
A. A. G.

Major:

In obedience to

General orders I submit the following report of the part taken by my Brigade in the battle before Fredericksburg. About 5 o'clock A.M. on Thursday the 11<sup>th</sup> inst. at the firing of the signal guns my Brigade was formed and marched rapidly from its encampment to the line of battle previously designated for Maj. Genl Anderson's Division in front and to the left of Fredericksburg. My Brigade <sup>formed the</sup> ~~was on the~~ Right of Anderson's Division, and was posted on Thursday morning between the plank road and Hazel Run in front of the town and some distance in rear of the Washington Artillery. Here we remained during that day and night, protected from the artillery fire of the enemy by a continuous range of hills in our front. On Friday morning my Brigade was moved to the left of the plank road, and our position, first position between the plank road and Hazel Run was occupied by Genl. Ransom's Division.

During Friday and Friday night we remained in position on the left of the plank road about the same distance in rear of our Batteries, where we were protected by the same continuous range of hills from the enemy's artillery fire. About 10 o'clock A.M. Saturday we were ordered to advance in line of battle farther to the front.

over

and halted about one hundred yards in rear of our Batteries on the left of the plank road, extending our line of battle up the River in the direction of the Taylor House. Here we remained during the day subjected to a very heavy converging fire from the enemy's artillery immediately in our front and extending up the River to our left. My men were kept lying during the day in an old road protecting them as much as possible. The enemy's Batteries immediately in front were numerous and skillfully served. Their Batteries on our left completely enveloped our position which they did not fail to see, and of which they took every advantage to avail themselves. The fire of the enemy's artillery could not have been more rapid or galling on any part of the line, than that which was brought to bear on our position on Saturday. The Right of my Brigade was also within range of the fire of the enemy's small arms. My orders were to hold this position in support of the Batteries immediately in my front, and to advance to the Batteries when the enemy advanced with small arms immediately in my front. There was no considerable advance of the enemy's small arms in our immediate front during the entire engagement. We remained in this position Saturday night & Sunday, Sunday night, Monday & ~~Monday~~ Monday night. At a late hour on Sunday night I was advised by Genl Ransom that one of his Brigades would be withdrawn and sent across Stages Run down the River by order of Lt. Genl. Longstreet. I then threw forward to the Rock fence on the Right of the Plank Road the 16<sup>th</sup> Miss. Regt. and five Companies of the 6<sup>th</sup> Miss. formerly 2<sup>d</sup> Miss. Battalion.

Official Report  
of Brig Gen Timbuctoo  
Boyd  
with battle of  
Flandersburg Va  
Dec 11 1862

to fill the places vacated by some of the troops withdrawn, and to form a continuous line of battle. These troops to wit the 16<sup>th</sup> Inf. & five Companies of the 46<sup>th</sup> Inf. Sunday night Monday, and Monday night remained in that position, declining on Monday night to be relieved by other Regiments of my Brigade. On Tuesday morning after the fact was ascertained that the enemy had recrossed the River, the troops were all withdrawn except the 12<sup>th</sup> Inf. Regt. which was left on Picket in front. During the engagement of Saturday the casualties in my Brigade were Forty Two (42) killed and wounded, and one (1) on Monday.

Among this number I regret to enumerate the loss of two valuable officers, Major Lee of the 46<sup>th</sup>, and Capt. Fullerton of the 16<sup>th</sup>, both seriously, but it is believed, not dangerously, wounded.

The small list of casualties under so heavy a engaging fire from the enemy's numerous Batteries can only be accounted for, under Providence, by the fact that the men were kept lying close on the ground, taking advantage of every hill and crest as a protection. A full Return of the killed & wounded has already been transmitted to your Head Quarters. During the entire engagement of five days and nights, both officers and men manifested great patience and endurance under their hardships and privations, and were eager to the last for a continuance of the fight.

The officers of the Medical, Commissary and Quarter Master's Departments were prompt and efficient in discharging the duties of their several Departments. In the absence of my regular staff officers Capt

Battle of -  
Fredericksburg  
Dec. 11th 1862,  
V.A.

6

Mr R Barksdale. A. A. G. & Lt. Parker A. D. Co. (both absent  
 on sick leave) I feel greatly indebted to my volunteer  
 Aids Capt C. A. Featherston & C. W. Graves who attend  
 ed me during the entire engagement and who  
 were ever ready prompt & efficient in the execution  
 of all orders upon every part of the field

I have the honor to be Major  
 Your obt Servt

W. A. Featherston  
 Brig Genl Comdr

[Faint, illegible handwritten notes or bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]