

Object ID: *MG0828_SeriesD-62_F08*

Document: *Draft of Antietam battle report, dated September 19, 1862*

Transcript:

Head Quarters 2nd Brigade
1st Division 9th Army Corps.
Sept 19th, 1862

Cap^t.

I have the honor to report that the 2nd Brigade of the 1st Division 9th Army Corps under my Command comprised of Regiments 45th and 100th Penn^a 46th New York and 8th Michigan, left Camp on the Morning of the 17th of Sept 1862 and marched in the direction of the Bridge over Antetim [Antietam] Creek on the Road to Sharpsburg. The Brigade being held in reserve to the forces engaged in storming the Bridge was not brought directly in contact with the Enemy until after Meridian. Our Victorious comrades having gained the opposite side meanwhile driven the Enemy from the Bridge and the banks of the Creek. I was ordered to cross with my Brigade to their relief— arriving at the opposite side of the Creek in compliance with verbal instructions from Brig Gen^l Wilcox. I moved my whole command over a steep hill and immediately charged the Enemy and drove them rapidly in the direction of Sharpsburg. My Troops advancing to the edge of the town and there capturing the Rebel Cap^t Twiggs and several soldiers. discovering that we had advanced beyond our supporting forces on my right and left I withdrew my command to an orchard directly on the left of the command of Col. Christ's 1st Brigade of the Division. we remained in this position until ordered back by the Gen^l commanding the Division to support the forces then desperately engaged with the Enemy who was attempting to out flank us on the left.

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My command was exposed for several hours to a tremendous cross fire from the Artillery of the Enemy as well as a direct fire from the Infantry & Riflemen in front—yet they advanced with steadiness and rapidity driving the Enemy at all points and performing strictly the great duty devolved on them by the commanding general. I ~~from~~ had great difficulty in restraining the ardor of my Troops, who seemed anxious to charge through the town and capture the Batteries beyond. As we fought directly under the eye of the General, I trust ~~we~~ our conduct has merited his approval. I commend my entire command for gallantry & good conduct Officers and men seemed to vie with each other in their efforts to excel in deeds of bravery.

A list of killed & wounded with reports of Regimental commandants are herewith
Enclosed

Very Respectfully
Your ob^t Serv^t
Tho^s Welsh Col
~~45 Reg^t Pen~~
45th Regt Penn^a Vols
Comg 2nd Brigade

To Capt – Hutchins



LancasterHistory

[Bottom of Page 2, vertically oriented]

Col Thos Welch
2nd Brigade Report of
Battle near S^sburg M^d
Sep 17th 1862

Analysis: Wiggin

This appears to be in Thomas Welsh's own handwriting (except for the file notation at the end), whereas TW-D-09 appears to be written by a copyist.

Scope and Content:

Handwritten draft detailing the activities of Welsh's 2nd Brigade (Willcox's 1st Division) during the battle of Antietam. Command consists of Regiments 45th and 100th Pennsylvania, 46th New York, and 8th Michigan. Commends command for gallantry and good conduct. Note: incorrect spelling of Brig General Orlando B. Willcox.

