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Brigadier General John C. Caldwell

A copy of Brigadier General John C. Caldwell's report on the activity of his division (1st Div. 2nd Corps. U.S.A) during the 2nd and 3rd day of the battle of Gettysburg. Also, two typed transcriptions of the manuscript. Ms. 6pp. TMs 8pp.

- Arrived on the morning of July 2nd. General Hancock places them to the left of the 2nd division in columns of regiments by brigades.
- Early afternoon, ordered to reinforce 3rd corps, which had engaged Confederate troops near the Emmetsburg Road. They encounter a column of the 5th corps already en route to do the same and are placed back into line.
- Between 4 and 5 pm they are ordered to report to General Sykes. Caldwell's aide, Lt. Cross is dispatched to find him, but fails. An unknown staff officer—Caldwell speculates Sykes' Adjutant General—finds them and places them in line to the right of the 5th corps and left of the 3rd.
- They are ordered to drive the Confederates back across a wheat field.
- Caldwell orders 1st Brigade under Colonel Cross to advance in the line with their left flank anchored in the nearby woods. They encounter Confederate troops and drive them across the wheat field. He places the 2nd brigade to the right of the 1st and the 3rd to the right of the 2nd and adjoining the 3rd Corps. The 4th brigade is kept in reserve.
- They drive the Confederates back over "difficult and rocky ground."
- 1st brigade is out of ammunition and is relieved by Colonel Brooke. He gains the crest of a hill "which was afterward gained by the whole of [the] line." They halt here and Caldwell calls upon General Barnes to send a brigade in support. Barnes sends Colonel Sweitzer's Brigade.
- To his left, General Ayres has not advanced as far as he did and hurries to catch up, but then to his right the line broke and ran, and he is being flanked.
- He falls back and takes a position behind a stone wall until the 12th corps comes to relieve him. Then General Hancock has him resume the first position he held in reserve that day and they wait until morning.

- In the morning, they formed the division into one line and begin to “throw up breastworks,” which protect them from a fierce artillery battery about noon. It lasts for an hour and only one man is killed.
- The Confederates launch an infantry assault against the center of his line. They are largely broken up by Federal artillery and when they reach Caldwell’s line, most of the rest surrender.
- Caldwell reports that Brigadier General Zook and Colonel Cross of the 5th New Hampshire were mortally wounded.
- Colonel Roberts of the 140th Pennsylvania and Lieutenant Colonel Merwin of the 27th Connecticut are killed in action.
- Caldwell then commends the following: Colonel McKeen of the 81st Pennsylvania, Lieutenant Colonel Hapgood of the 5th New Hampshire, Lieutenant Colonel Broady of the 61st New York, Colonel Kelly unit unnamed, Lieutenant Colonel Frazer of the 140th Pennsylvania, Lieutenant Colonel Chapman of the 57th New York, Colonels Brown and Bailey unit unnamed, Lieutenant Cross of his staff, Lieutenant Wilson also of his staff, and finally Majors Scott and Hancock of his staff. Caldwell then recommends his orderly, Corporal Uriah N. Parmalee from Company D of the 6th New York Cavalry, for a promotion.

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