

Camp Bishop, near Shelbyville Tenn  
July 27<sup>th</sup> 1863

Captain

In addition to the report already furnished of Officers & men displaying extraordinary valor & skill upon the battle field - as called for by Genl. Ordine 5<sup>th</sup> Mar Dept. I deem it due to Srgt. McMurphy Co. A 9<sup>th</sup> Me. Art. S.S. to make a special report to the Col. Commanding Brigade of the circumstances connected with his killing an Abolition Officer & capturing four privates in the late battle before Nashville.

On Friday evening July 24<sup>th</sup> 63 - Company A of the 9<sup>th</sup> Me. Art. being deployed on the West bank of Stone River & flanking on the left of Breckinridge's Division which was on the East bank - were met with that division in its attack - The first time of the evening was met & repulsed by us - but being reinforced with a second & third time they in turn repulsed us - Srgt. McMurphy who was in charge of the right group of his Company - owing to the inequality of the ground became separated from his comrades in falling back & while following the course of the stream - came single handed upon an Abolition Officer & four privates



concealed by a large rock & who had been  
overrun by the sharpshooters on their first  
advance - instantly bringing his gun  
to his shoulder he ordered the party  
to surrender or he would fire upon  
them - the Officer told him, to fire  
& he did & ordered his men to  
shoot the dead son of a bitch  
Murphy delivered his fire, killing  
the Officer instantly & then drawing a  
small pistol ordered the four privates  
across the River where he discovered  
them together with the slain Officer  
A word to Genl Breckenridge's Com  
mand

Very Respectfully

Asst. Surg. Genl.

N. C. Richards

Col. W. A. Burdette Major Commanding Chalmers  
Co. G. V. (9<sup>th</sup>) Regt. Sharpshooters