

For those who ride with Forrest:

Nov. 28th – Gen. Armstrong's Brigade, of Jackson's Division, had to force their way across the Duck River under heavy fire. Gen. Chalmers' Division crosses the River by late afternoon.

Gen. Buford's Division crossing of the river was disputed with a severe conflict. After making a vigorous attack, he drove the enemy off.

Gen. Buford's men captured a Federal field train, including ordnance wagons and about eighty mounted enemy cavalry. (J&P)

Nov. 29th – Gen. Buford's Division threw his entire command across the Duck River by daylight on the 29th.

Generals Chalmers and Jackson continued to press the Federal cavalry rearguard of their army towards Hurt's Crossroad.

Gen. Jackson's Division engaged the Yankees with animation and drove the enemy steadily back in a series of well-contested combats.

Gen. Chalmers simultaneously was engaged in sharp skirmishes with the Federals on the narrow country road west of the Lewisburg-Franklin Pike.

Gen. Buford had now come up and the whole Confederate cavalry was assembled at Hurt's Crossroad. An immediate attack was ordered and the enemy was forced rearward (north) to Mt. Carmel, Tenn.

At Mt. Carmel the Federal cavalry put up an obstinate combat, but were eventually driven further north. (J&P)

Nov. 29th – Leaving several regiments in observation of the Federal's movements, Gen. Forrest turned off abruptly, moving across country toward Spring Hill with the rest of his command.

Just south of Spring Hill, Gen. Forrest's advance troops skirmish with a small Federal cavalry force. He drives them back into a larger Federal infantry command occupying a long line of breastworks around the south and east of that town.

Gen. Forrest received a dispatch from Gen. Hood instructing him to hold the enemy in check at Spring Hill until Generals Cheatham's and Stewart's Corps came up. Skirmishing continued with such effect that the Yankees withdrew their pickets to within their fortifications. (J&P)

Nov. 29th – Gen. Patrick Cleburne's Division of Cheatham's Corps were the first to arrive. A serious joint attack by Cleburne, Chalmers and Buford was handsomely made and proved very successful.

The enemy yielded their position and fell back upon a second line. Generals Chalmers and Buford were

now out of ammunition.

It was now dark and Gen. Forrest's men had been engaged in action since sunrise. The men were worn down from hard fighting without intermission for the past week. They were withdrawn from the line to feed their horses and bivouac.

The Confederate infantry was left to hold the ground acquired. (J&P)

Nov. 29th – Generals Cheatham and Forrest, having received conflicting orders, both rode to Hood's headquarters. In the meantime Gen. Cleburne's command had been withdrawn from the secured position, thus leaving the Franklin-Columbia Turnpike open.

Gen. Hood was surprised to hear the Turnpike was still open to Federal retreat. Gen. Cheatham could not explain the confusion in orders. Gen. Stewart stated that he had an immediate obstacle preventing his Corps from blocking the Turnpike.

Gen. Hood then turned to Gen. N.B. Forrest for the task. Generals Buford and Chalmers' Division were completely out of ammunition, as their ordnance train had been left at Columbia .

Gen. Forrest ordered Gen. W.H. Jackson's Division for the service. Luckily he had captured enough ammunition to attempt the operation.

Nov. 29th – Gen. Jackson established his Division across the Turnpike north of Spring Hill at Thompson's Station.

He managed to divide portions of the withdrawing Federal army. By midnight, Gen. Jackson's guns could be heard in a spirited fight. A continuous roar of musketry resounded throughout the hours of darkness. He was unable to do more than harass the overwhelming Federal troops as they forced their way past him during the night. (J&P)