Head Quarters 3rd Infantry
Monterey, Monterey, Mexico, September 26, 1846.

Sir:

I have the honor to submit to you the following report of the movements of the 3rd Infantry under my command, during the recent operations before and in Monterey.

By order of Brig. Genl. Watts commanding the 3rd Division, on the morning of the 25th the 3rd remained for a short time as a reserve and guard for the wagons at and near the houses, not far from the foot of the 2nd height in rear of the city, until ordered up towards the Saltillo road. During this march, the regiment was much exposed to the enemy’s fire from both heights; which, however, resulted only in the loss of one private: many of the shot from the batteries passing over us and some falling short.

After remaining near the Saltillo road for some time, in line of battle on the hill side, the regiment received orders about 2 o’clock P.M. to cross the river and support the troops which had been sent to storm the 1st height. On arriving at the foot of the hill, it was ascertained that the extreme point of the 1st height had been carried, the enemy having left their pieces and retired to an apparently strong fort farther up the ridge. Having received your orders to attack this position, and that you would support me with the 7th, I formed my regiment in line of battle in extended order upon the slope of the mountain, the right resting on the road below. In this order we marched to the assault, supported by Captains Blanchard’s company of Louisiana Volunteers on our left, and followed by the 7th Infantry. The command of Captains B. F. Smith & Bell, and the Texan dismounted cavalry under Capt. Slay, at the same time advanced along the summit of the hill in the direction of the work. The enemy attempted a desperate resistance, keeping up a brisk fire from their artillery and small arms, causing some loss in our ranks; but the advance of our troops being perfectly steady, in a few minutes the enemy was driven from the work, and over the hill towards the city, leaving in our possession, one 9 pounder, their tents, mules, camp equipage, and a large quantity of ammunition. As we entered the work on one side, the enemy fled to the other. In this affair, the loss of the regiment was Lieut. Roswell, Sergt. Major Brandt and five privates wounded.
During the night of the 21st, according to your orders, I occupied the heights overlooking the city, leaving the fort in the possession of the 7th.

Immediately after daylight on the morning of the 22nd, your orders reached me to cross to the second height and support the assaulting column, which had carried that position, above the Bishop's Palace. Descending the mountain, we crossed the river and arrived at the next summit at about 10 o'clock A.M. under a fire of round shot, grape, shells and musketry from the Palace; fortunately without serious injury, care being taken to keep in extended order. At about 2 P.M., a report having been received at the summit, that the enemy were about to attempt a sortie from the Palace, I detached, by order, Captains Mears and Chapman with their companies, to the support of Capt. J. H. Bristow 3rd Artillery, then skirmishing in front with his command. These companies continued actively engaged from this time, until the whole charged upon the palace; by which movement, this stronghold of the enemy fell into our hands, at about 5 o'clock P.M. The remaining companies of the 3rd, remained at the summit for a short time, after which they entered the palace and works, when the whole regiment was again ordered to cross the river and take a position to support the 7th in the fort opposite, where they bivouacked for the night.

Early on the morning of the 23rd, according to your instructions, the regiment was engaged in transporting a piece of captured artillery to the heights overlooking the city, the same occupied by us on the night of the 21st. This difficult operation was accomplished about 9 o'clock A.M. At about 11 o'clock, I received your orders to descend and relieve the 7th, leaving Captain Chapman with his company for the protection of the gun. The firing from this piece was kept up with great effect by Lieut. J. R. Smith, until apprehension was felt, of annoying our own troops who were entering the city, when it was deemed proper to cease firing the gun was withdrawn, and brought over back in the evening by Captain Chapman's company to the Bishop's Palace.

With the exception of the company with this piece, and company I under Lieut. White, which was detached in the afternoon, as part of the rear guard, the Regiment entered the city at about 1 P.M., moved forward and joined the advance, and participated in the action until the close.
It affords me much satisfaction to speak of the gallantry displayed by the officers and men of this Regiment in the arduous duties which they have lately been called on to perform. From Capt. Merrill, second in command, I have received constant and cordial support. This officer and Capt. Chapman, together with Lieuts. Powell, Luggsbury and J. P. Smith of their respective companies, were engaged for a long time in the brisk skirmishing on the 5th heights, and were in the gallant charge which drove the enemy from the Bishop's Palace. To Lieut. George Dow, the adjutant of the Regiment, I am much indebted for the assistance which he rendered me on all occasions. His gallantry and good conduct was conspicuous on all occasions. Lieutenants Mr. Phair, Russell, Whitall, and Rosewarne commanding companies, and Lieut. Fowler, have displayed great coolness and courage. The younger officers of the Regiment, Lieuts. Hamilton, Selkirk, Strong, Farrelly and E. H. Smith and Pitcher, have equally given evidence of the best qualities of the officer and soldier.

Asst. Surgeon Bowrads attached to the 5th, has displayed marked energy and zeal in the discharge of his professional duties.

I cannot close this report, without speaking of the gallant bearing of Sergt. Updegrave, who bore the colors in handsome style in the assault on the 21st, carrying them into the work, almost at the heels of the enemy.

The total loss of the Regiment, has been one officer (Lieut. Russell), Sergt. Major Brand, and two privates wounded, one mortally (since dead).

Respectfully Submitted,

(Signed) Martin Scott
Major 5th Inf.

Commanding Regiment.

Colonel Persifor F. Smith, Rifles
Commanding 2nd Brigade 2nd Division
Army of Occupation.

Col. Martin Scott
Major 5th Dragoons