

placed under the command of Colonel F. J. Thomas, a former officer of the United States Army and a Marylander. The report proved to be correct, for, on May 17, he assumed command of the Maryland troops and issued the following notification, which bore the indorsement of Colonel T. J. Jackson :

HEADQUARTERS MARYLAND VOLUNTEERS SERVING IN VIRGINIA. May 17, 1861.

*Colonel R. S. Garnett, Adjutant-General.*

*Colonel*—Pursuant to instructions from Colonel Jackson, based upon a letter to me from Colonel French, aide-de-camp to His Excellency Governor Letcher, I have this day assumed command of the Maryland volunteers in this State. Numbers of the men, and especially a large number of the most valuable of the officers, have gone to Richmond and other points in Virginia. As it is very desirable that all the Maryland men should be together, I respectfully request an order to be issued for them to report here, or at such other point as the General-in-Chief may designate. I can control about three thousand two hundred of active and generally well-drilled men from Baltimore and vicinity. Until better arms can be procured, I shall proceed to arm them with the flint-lock muskets issued to Mr. T. Parkin Scott, of Baltimore, by Governor Letcher.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

F. J. THOMAS. *Colonel Commanding.*

[INDORSEMENT.]

There are some of the Maryland volunteers who object to serving under Colonel Thomas, and, in order to secure their services, I would suggest that they be mustered into the service of the Southern Confederacy, and that none except those who muster into the service of Virginia be placed under the command of Colonel Thomas.

T. J. JACKSON.

*Colonel Virginia Volunteers. Commanding at Harper's Ferry.*

Immediately after he had assumed command, Colonel Thomas went to Suffolk with the companies of Captains Clark and Dorsey, that were then in Richmond, and from Suffolk they marched to Chuckatuck, where they remained a short time as the guests of the hospitable people of that place. Their experience was undoubtedly the most delightful of any that a body of Maryland soldiers had during the war, and the recollections of it must still dwell in the hearts of the survivors. They saw no enemy on the way to Chuckatuck, but they had a little