

hours less than fifty men kept many thousands in check. . . . The enemy, driven to desperation, resorted to a charge of cavalry that swept everything before it. The led horses, wagons, straggling infantry and camp followers were hurled down the mountain in one confused mass. Ineffectual efforts were made for a rally and resistance, but without avail, until at the foot of the mountain a few joined Captain W. G. Welsh's company of the Maryland cavalry, stationed at this point, and drove back the advance of the enemy. But this mere handful of men had to yield to the increasing numbers of the enemy.

Captain Emack and Welsh lost heavily for the number engaged in this affair, the greater part of their men being killed, wounded or made prisoners, and among the wounded and captured was Lieutenant Adolphus Cooke, of Emack's company, a most dashing young officer, who lay insensible for several days before regaining consciousness. Lieutenant Cooke remained in prison until the close of the war, much to the regret of the men of his company, with whom he was very popular.

We left Company A, First Maryland, under Captain F. A. Bond, with orders to move to the front and protect Ewell's wagon trains moving on another road from that upon which Emack and Welsh had fought the enemy so heroically.

The following interesting description of the experience of Company A is from Captain Bond to the author :

On the night of the 5th we encamped upon the top of the mountain, possibly ten miles from Hagerstown. By sunrise next morning we were on the march, and about noon reached the head of the column. There were miles of wagons, which had halted on the outskirts of Hagerstown. I had no authority to give orders, and as there appeared to be no enemy near, and a considerable body of our cavalry was in the town, I determined to get some food for men and horses, and for this purpose directed my men to break ranks for an hour, and then assemble at the same place unless sooner recalled by the bugle. I rode off, and was in a fair way to get a meal when I was informed that the enemy in force was approaching the town upon the opposite side to that by which we had entered. As the information seemed reliable I abandoned my dinner and hastened back to the rendezvous, and the bugle call soon rallied forty-six of my one hundred and nine men. With this handful I rode through the town in column of fours, and halted immediately in the rear of the Tenth Virginia Cavalry, commanded by Colonel J. Lucius Davis. This was a strong regiment, numbering, I thought, some five hundred men. I shall here state that I was accompanied from Gettysburg by George W. Booth, at that time Adjutant of the First Maryland, but who was not sufficiently recovered from a wound received two months before at Greenland Gap to do duty, but who was by my side during the entire affair. R. G. Harper Carroll, a brother of Ex-Governor John Lee Carroll, happened in the town as a civilian, and, although he had only a pocket pistol, he gallantly joined us, and later on, when it appeared we were running away, he appealed earnestly to me not to retreat.