

driven back with loss. In this affair the First Maryland surprised their new allies by their dashing style of fighting.

On the 5th of July General Johnson crossed the Potomac near Sharpsburg, where he met a small force of the enemy's cavalry, which Lieutenant George M. E. Shearer, with a detachment of the First Maryland pursued into Hagerstown, when coming suddenly upon a superior force he was compelled to retreat upon the main body. In the pursuit which ensued Shearer was taken prisoner, along with several of his men.

On the night of the 8th General Johnson was directed to report to General Early in person, near Middletown, Maryland. General Early at that meeting directed General Johnson to move early on the morning of the 9th and take position north of Frederick City and watch his (Early's) left during the battle that was to ensue next day at the Monocacy River. Being assured of Early's success. Johnson was then to strike across the country, destroying railroads and telegraphs north of Baltimore, then to sweep rapidly around the city and cut the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad between Baltimore and Washington. This accomplished. Johnson was to push on for Point Lookout and reach that place if possible on the night of the 12th of July, so as to co-operate with Captain John Taylor Wood, who was to be there at that time with an armed Confederate steamer. The ten or twelve thousand prisoners there released, Johnson was to march them to Washington, where Early was to wait for him. Should Early be successful in his contemplated attack upon the Federal Capital, these prisoners were to be armed from the several arsenals of that city.

It seemed utterly impossible for General Johnson to reach Point Lookout by the time specified, and he so expressed himself, but was perfectly willing to lead the expedition. Accordingly, on the morning of the 9th, he started from the vicinity of Frederick, and moving through Liberty, New Windsor, Westminster and Reisterstown, reached Cockeysville on the morning of the 10th, and burned the railroad bridge there. Colonel Harry Gilmer was here detached with his own and part of the First Maryland battalion, and ordered to raid the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad near the Gunpowder River, and if possible burn the bridge. In this Gilmer was successful. He not only burned the bridge, but he captured two trains, on one of which Major-General Franklin was a passenger. Franklin was captured, but subsequently made his escape.

From Cockeysville General Johnson shaped his course across Green Spring Valley, in Baltimore County, and after burning the residence of Governor Bradford, in retaliation for the burning of the home of Governor Letcher, in Virginia, which had been destroyed by firebrand Hunter under circumstances of peculiar brutality. General Johnson went into camp for the night at the "Caves," the home of John Carroll, Esq. Here General Johnson learned from a trusty scout, now