

his command to General Elzey at Staunton. He did not report, however, and the effort to organize the Marylanders at that point failed entirely :

*Special Orders No. 105.*

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE, RICHMOND, VIRGINIA, May 5, 1864.

Major H. W. Gilmore's Battalion Partisan Rangers will be immediately mustered into the service of the Confederate States as cavalry. Major Gilmore will then proceed by highway with his battalion of cavalry to Camp Maryland, Staunton, Virginia, and report to Major-General A. Elzey, commanding Maryland Line, for assignment. Citizens of other States who are enlisted in any company of this battalion may, if they desire it, be transferred to companies from their own State.

BY COMMAND OF SECRETARY OF WAR.

JOHN WITHERS,  
*Acting Adjutant-General.*

In June, 1864, Early was sent to the Valley after driving Hunter from Lynchburg into the mountains and defiles of West Virginia. He sent Gilmore and the band to hang on and harass his rear.

In the movement on Winchester Gilmore, with Holmes Conrad, subsequently Assistant Attorney-General of the United States under President Cleveland's Administration, captured a company of infantry and marched them into camp, and the same evening the same pair of free riders took prisoners a troop of fifty-eight men of the First New Jersey Cavalry, with their horses, arms and equipments.

Such an exploit rang through the army, and Gilmore and Conrad received the plaudits of all and the thanks of "old Jubal."

In June Colonel Bradley T. Johnson was promoted Brigadier and assigned to the command of the cavalry brigade of General W. E. Jones, who had just been killed at the battle of New Hope.

Colonel Gilmore was ordered to report with his battalion to General Johnson, who consolidated the First and Second Maryland Battalions and put Gilmore in command.

Since the preceding January General Lee had been contemplating an expedition under Colonel Johnson with the Maryland Line from Hanover Junction to release the Confederate prisoners at Point Lookout. When Early crossed the Potomac in the early part of July General Lee sent him an order by a staff officer to send Johnson with his command to attack Point Lookout on the morning of the 12th. Early on the night of the 8th ordered Johnson with his cavalry to make a