

of cannon ahead caused the division to hasten its steps. Johnson got there too late, but it was no fault of his. Had General Ewell taken the division direct to Gettysburg from Carlisle, instead of sending it there by a most circuitous route, there would have been no second or third days' battles at Gettysburg. This General Ewell freely admitted and regretted afterward.

Passing through the outskirts of the town, Johnson formed his line of battle along the Hanover road, and that night the troops laid upon their arms.

The sun rose on the morning of July 2d clear and beautiful. Alas ! how many saw it rise for the last time !

In the absence of Colonel Andrews, wounded at Winchester, the noble Latimer was in command of the artillery battalion to which the First Maryland was attached.

About 4 o'clock in the afternoon Major Latimer was ordered to take position on Benner's Hill, the best position that could be obtained for artillery, but completely commanded by Cemetery Ridge.

Fiercely did the gallant fellow fight his guns (or rather what was left of them after the first hour) until near dark, when he received a wound that laid him in a soldier's grave a few days after.

And how fared the First Maryland in this fierce battle ? The battery was doing its duty nobly, as it had done before, and as it did afterward. It suffered with the rest, and among those who died was the gallant Sam Thompson, who was killed by the explosion of an ammunition chest which was struck by one of the enemy's shells.

Poor Sam Thompson ! And who in Baltimore did not know the handsome fellow before the war ? Noble, generous and brave, he was the life of every social gathering he attended. Sam Thompson was one of the happiest men on earth, and he was happiest when making others happy. No soldier in the Confederacy left a better record, and none were more beloved by his comrades. Peace to his ashes !

Wearily and sadly the Army of Northern Virginia dragged its shattered body back to Williamsport, and there recrossed the Potomac. At Hagerstown Colonel Andrews reported for duty and resumed command of the battalion.

After reaching Virginia the battalion moved to Martinsburg, and thence to Bunker Hill, to Liberty Mills, and finally to the vicinity of Charlottesville, where it remained until called upon to march to Mine Run to resist the advance of Meade ; and here it was heavily engaged. In this battle George Scott, of the First, said to be one of the best gunners in the Confederate Army, was among the killed.

After Mine Run the battalion was sent to Frederick's Hall, where it was turned over to Colonel Braxton, Colonel Andrews being compelled, owing to the terrible wound he received at Cedar Run, to relinquish the command.