

pieces of artillery, fired at point-blank range. The slaughter was appalling, and whole ranks melted away in an instant, but the brave survivors closed up their decimated columns, and despite that awful fire pressed on until they encountered the infantry posted in the railroad cut in front, where for a time the fight was waged hand to hand. At length they began to break and to retreat, and the batteries, which had been silent for some time, owing to the proximity of the struggling columns of infantry, again belched forth into the fleeing mass their deadly discharges of grape, which was continued until the fugitives reached the shelter of the woods from which they had emerged.

Of the several batteries under General Lee that day not one was worked more fiercely than the Baltimore Light Artillery, and none contributed more to the defeat and destruction of the enemy.

Long before nightfall the victory was won, and the braggart Pope, with the remnant of his army, was seeking safety in the defenses around Washington.

In the invasion of Maryland, which followed this signal victory, the battery was placed in the advance, and crossed the river at White's ford.

On the 6th of September the battery passed through Frederick City and encamped on the suburbs. Many were the congratulations the brave fellows received from the citizens, and during the three days they remained their wants were abundantly supplied.

Leaving Frederick City, the battery passed through Boonsboro', Middletown, and Williamsport, where they recrossed the Potomac, and on the 12th entered Martinsburg. From thence it moved towards Harper's Ferry, when upon arriving at Loudoun Heights, Brockenborough was assigned a position, from which, at early dawn of the 15th, he opened, along with other batteries, a terrific fire upon the enemy's entrenched position on Bolivar Heights. The batteries were worked furiously for an hour, when just as the Confederate infantry were put in motion to storm the works, a white flag fluttered in the breeze, and Harper's Ferry surrendered with its twelve thousand troops, and artillery and supplies in abundance.

But there was heavy work yet to be done, for General Lee with a portion of his army was confronting the overwhelming masses of McClellan at Sharpsburg, and no time was to be lost in reaching him. The surrender had, therefore, scarcely been effected when the troops were dispatched to his aid. By a forced night march Jackson's artillery reached Sharpsburg on the 16th, and was immediately assigned a position on a range of hills rather northwest of the town.

The morning of the 17th of September found the two armies in position, and ready to begin the work of destruction. For the Confederates the prospects of success seemed gloomy enough, for General Lee had barely forty thousand men with which to meet the mighty army of McClellan, numbering over a hundred and twenty thousand troops. But the vast odds were made almost proportionate by the