

At the first evidence of Kenly's withdrawing his forces, Colonel Johnson ordered the whole of the First Maryland to advance (but three companies having been engaged), when many prisoners were captured on the river's bank, although the greater number succeeded in escaping over the two bridges, but in a disorganized condition.

At this point Colonel Johnson halted his command. It had fulfilled its mission, and the pursuit was to be conducted by cavalry. These overtook the fleeing Federals after they had gone some three miles, when after a desperate fight the entire body was captured, though not without severe loss to the attacking cavalry, for Kenly fought his troops like the brave man he was.

Thus ended the battle of Front Royal, in which First Maryland met First Maryland, and the scenes that were enacted that night when the prisoners were brought in are indescribable, for in the ranks of each were found dear friends, and in some cases near relatives, and the attention shown the vanquished by the victors did much to cheer them in their hour of captivity. Colonel Kenly and Adjutant Tarr were severely wounded, and to these Colonel Johnson and his officers paid particular attention. Colonel Kenly in his official report thus speaks of the treatment he and his command received at the hands of their captors :

"I desire also to state that since we fell into the hands of the Confederate troops our treatment has been kind and considerate, except that but a scanty allowance of food has been given to us, which I ascribe rather to its scarcity among them than to any disposition on their part to deprive us of it."

But this statement of "kind and considerate treatment of which Colonel Kenly speaks is at variance with the following extract from an official report signed by five officers of his command, who were evidently badly scared, and deserted their companions and their colors in their hour of need, and who never stopped running until they had reached Hagerstown, from which safe point of observation the report is dated :

The rebel infantry forded the North Branch stream and flanked us on the left. We were again ordered to move, left in front, up the road toward Winchester. We had marched about two miles when a wild shout was heard, and rebel cavalry came dashing into our lines, cutting right and left, showing no quarter, displaying a black flag. A portion of their cavalry captured our train, except one wagon and eight horses, which were cut loose by the teamsters (?) to escape on. A severe fight was kept up until our whole force was cut to pieces.

THOMAS SAVILLE, *First Lieutenant Commanding Company B.*  
 JOHN McF. LYETH, *First Lieutenant and R. Q. M., Company H.*  
 GEORGE W. THOMPSON, *Lieutenant, Company D.*  
 CHARLES CAMPER, *Lieutenant, Company K.*  
 GEORGE SMITH, *Captain, Company C.*