

brough's Baltimore Light Artillery, on the extreme left, and Trimble's Brigade on the right, whilst Elzey's Brigade was in the rear of the centre, and in position to strengthen either wing, both wings being in the wood.

About 10 o'clock the enemy threw out his skirmishers and shortly after posted his artillery opposite Ewell's batteries. For some hours the artillery fire was kept up with great animation on both sides, when an attack was simultaneously made upon Trimble on the right and Steuart on the left. Both attacks were repulsed — that made upon Trimble with heavy loss to the enemy. The little First Maryland, not numbering over two hundred men, were fortunately posted in a wood, and in front of them was an open over which the enemy had to pass in making his attack. Had it not been for the shelter of this wood, they could not have survived five minutes, so terrific was the storm of shot and shell that was rained upon them. Never before had the Maryland boys been called upon to undergo such an ordeal. Three different times they drove back with heavy loss the overwhelming odds sent to dislodge them. Hour after hour this unequal contest continued. When a man would fall an officer would seize his gun and continue the firing, and the Mississippi rifle told with deadly effect. At 2 o'clock Colonel Johnson discovered that his ammunition was fast being exhausted. Sergeant William H. Pope, of Company A, volunteered to bring some, although it seemed almost certain death to venture for a moment from the shelter of the wood. The gallant fellow, however, succeeded in his mission and the firing continued, until, at 5 o'clock, when the battle was virtually over, the First Maryland was relieved, their guns having become totally unserviceable. Seven hours had this little command been under fire, and during that time, although sheltered in a measure, they had lost twenty-nine men and one officer (Lieutenant H. H. Bean) wounded. General George H. Steuart had been borne from the field with a ghastly wound in the shoulder made by a grape shot, and General Elzey had also been carried off with a serious wound. Some of the wounds received by the men of the First Maryland were very severe, having been made by explosive bullets, which the enemy fired in great numbers upon this occasion at least, although it has been denied.

The following highly complimentary extract is taken from the official report made by General Ewell :

The history of the Maryland regiment, gallantly commanded by Colonel Bradley T. Johnson, during the campaign of the Valley, would be the history of every action, from Front Royal to Cross Keys.

On the 6th instant, near Harrisonburg, the Fifty-eighth Virginia Regiment was engaged with the Pennsylvania Bucktails, the fighting being close and bloody. Colonel Johnson came up with his regiment in the hottest period of the affair, and by a dashing