

charge in flank drove the enemy off with heavy loss, capturing the Lieutenant-Colonel (Kane) commanding. In commemoration of their gallant conduct I ordered one of the captured bucktails to be appended as a trophy to their flag.

The gallantry of the regiment on this occasion is worthy of acknowledgment from a higher source, more particularly as they avenged the death of the gallant General Ashby, who fell at the same time. Two color-bearers were shot down in succession, but each time the colors were caught before reaching the ground, and were finally borne by Corporal Shanks to the close of the action.

On the 8th instant, at Cross Keys, they were opposed to three of the enemy's regiments in succession.

Early on the morning of the 9th of June the First Maryland crossed the bridge at Port Republic, being among the last to do so, and shortly after it was set on fire and totally destroyed.

The fierce battle of Port Republic began soon after, and was, perhaps, the most bloody of any during the war, for the number of men engaged, the Federal troops under General Tyler, many being from the Western States, fighting with the most desperate courage. They were, however, signally routed, with great loss of men and artillery.

The First Maryland was spared from this battle, having well and truly done its duty the day before, although Private Joshua Simpson, of Company D, who was fighting with the Fifty-second Virginia, was severely wounded.

That afternoon, whilst engaged in burying the enemy's dead and ministering to their wounded, Fremont's batteries on the opposite side of the river opened upon the First Maryland and compelled the men to desist from their humane work.

On the evening of the 9th Jackson's force moved into the mountains by way of Brown's Gap, and on the 12th the army recrossed South River and went into camp at Weyer's Cave.

The battle of Port Republic closed Jackson's wonderful Valley campaign, and never in his remarkable career did his genius show to greater advantage. In less than six weeks he had beaten the army of Milroy, routed that of Banks, whipped that of Fremont and annihilated that of Shields, and all this with but twelve thousand men.

Arrived at Weyer's Cave, General Jackson resolved to carry out the order allowing all Marylanders in the Confederate Army who desired it to be transferred to the Maryland Line, whereby it was hoped at least a brigade could be formed. The Maryland Line had existed only in name, and the First Maryland Regiment had been so depleted by the hard campaign in the Valley that it became absolutely necessary that its ranks should be recruited. Moreover, the terms of service