

sent into the town, Major Goldsborough became convinced that the forts were being evacuated, and so reported to General Ewell.

At daybreak of the 15th Major Goldsborough put his skirmishers in motion and proceeded cautiously through the streets of Winchester without encountering the enemy. At the Taylor Hotel Captain William I. Raisin, of the First Maryland Cavalry, was found. He had been severely wounded and captured three or four days before in an ambuscade near Newtown. At this moment the roar of artillery was heard some three miles out on the Martinsburg road. It proved to proceed from an encounter of General Edward Johnson's Division with the retreating enemy. This division had been thrown around from the right during the night for the purpose of intercepting Milroy's retreat. The battle was fierce and bloody, but the enemy lost heavily in killed, wounded and prisoners. The Second Maryland skirmishers, with the exception of that portion of Company A under command of Lieutenant George Thomas, immediately took possession of the Star Fort, capturing some two hundred prisoners. Lieutenant Thomas, proceeding alone, pretending not to have heard the command to halt, ran into a large body of the enemy's cavalry, dismounted them and mounted his own command, and marched his prisoners in triumph into town. It was so comical a sight that Major Goldsborough administered but a mild reprimand to the gallant young officer for his disobedience of orders.

The Star Fort for the day was made a receptacle for prisoners and garrisoned by Company G, under command of Captain Thomas R. Stewart, whilst the remainder of the Second Maryland were detailed for provost duty. In the evening the battalion was relieved by the Thirteenth Virginia, under Colonel Terrill, and was temporarily attached to Steuart's Brigade, Edward Johnson's Division, Ewell's Corps, composed of the First and Third North Carolina, Tenth, Twenty-third and Thirty-seventh Virginia Regiments.

The Confederate victory at Winchester had been complete. Milroy lost the greater part of his army, and his artillery, wagon train and a vast amount of stores fell into the hands of the victors.

Of the part the Second Maryland Infantry took in the engagement, General Early, in his official report, makes the following complimentary mention :

Having received the instructions of the Lieutenant-General commanding, the wagons, excepting the ambulances and regimental ordnance and medical wagons, were left at Cedarville, and I diverged from the Winchester and Front Royal turnpike at Ninevah and reached the Valley turnpike at Newtown, and thence advancing toward Winchester I found Lieutenant-Colonel Herbert, of the Maryland Line, with his battalion of infantry, Baltimore Light Artillery, and a portion of the First Maryland Cavalry, occupying the ridge between Bartonsville and Kernstown, and engaged in occasional skirmishing with a