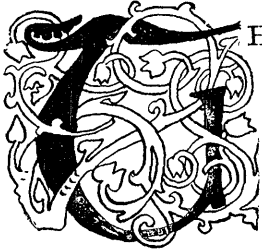


FIRST REGIMENT INFANTRY.



THE First Maryland Infantry was the first Maryland regiment mustered into the service of the United States during the Civil War for the preservation of the Union. On the 6th day of May, 1861 a recruiting office was opened at No. 112 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore City, Maryland, by Capt. John C. McConnell, a citizen of Baltimore City, under the auspices of General John R. Kenly and other prominent loyal citizens of Maryland. In ten days' time—that is, on the 16th day of May, 1861—four companies had been recruited, viz.: Companies A, B, C and D, and were duly mustered into the service of the United States, for the term of three years, as a part of the First Maryland Infantry Regiment.

Meanwhile, recruiting was going on in other portions of the City of Baltimore and in the State of Maryland for the same regiment, so that by the 27th day of May, 1861, Companies E, F, G, H, I and K had completed their quota, and all of said companies were duly mustered into the service of the United States, thus completing the first organized Maryland regiment accredited to the quota of Maryland in the great Civil War.

The regiment immediately went into camp at the Relay House, on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, and remained there until the 6th day of June, 1861, when it moved to Camp Carroll, nearer Baltimore City. Here Col. John R. Kenly assumed command of the regiment, and it was at this camp also that the patriotic ladies of West Baltimore, on the 18th day of June, 1861, presented the regiment with a regimental flag, the presentation being witnessed by a large concourse of patriotic and enthusiastic people.

Whilst encamped at Camp Carroll the regiment was fully armed, equipped, drilled, disciplined and prepared for active field service.

On the 7th day of July, 1861, the regiment was ordered to proceed by the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad to Frederick City, Maryland, and from thence it marched by the old national turnpike to Middletown, where it went into its first bivouac for the night.

The next day it marched to the Antietam and encamped on the banks of that now historic stream; thence marched to Downsville, which was reached on the 10th, and remained until the 23d day of July, when it marched to Williamsport, on the Potomac river.

Several of the companies were immediately detailed for detached duty to guard the fords and ferries of the Potomac river from the mouth of the Antietam to Williamsport, and whilst engaged in this duty had frequent skirmishes with the Confederates.

The regiment remained on the upper Potomac until October 16, 1861, when it marched sixty miles to Darnestown to take part in the campaign that culminated in the Battle of Ball's Bluff.

On the 2d day of December, 1861, the regiment marched again to the vicinity of Frederick, where it went into winter quarters with General Banks' Division, but it was