

## CHAPTER V.

Ewell's division remained at Swift Run Gap for more than two weeks, when it was learned that Jackson had marched over the steep ranges of mountains that lay between Swift Run Gap and Milroy at McDowell, and, after administering a crushing defeat to that General, was then returning to the valley of Virginia, and Ewell was ordered to unite with him in the vicinity of Luray.

It was on this march, in the vicinity of Columbia Bridge, on May 16, 1862, that the term of enlistment of the officers and men of Company C, First Maryland, expired, and they were discharged from the service.

It was near Luray, on the 21st day of May, 1862, that the men of the First Maryland were gratified with a sight of the glorious Jackson. Away off in their rear, as they trudged along the turnpike, went up a mighty shout. Louder and louder it swelled in volume as it grew nearer. The Maryland boys had never heard that shouting before, and did not know its meaning until an old Virginia soldier who had heard it before called out : " Thar comes old Jack or an old har'." And presently an officer was seen riding furiously up the road bareheaded and bowing right and left. It was Stonewall Jackson, under whose leadership, through the long marches and hard battles that summer, the First Maryland was to win a reputation that will live for all time.

The evening of their arrival at Luray the following order was read, detaching the First Maryland from Elzey's Brigade and placing it under command of Brigadier-General George H. Stuart :

SOLON, May 17, 1862.

*Major-General R. S. Ewell :*

For the purpose of carrying out the order for organizing the Maryland Line, I have detached the First Maryland Regiment from Elzey's Brigade and assigned it to Brigadier-General George H. Stuart. Should you need the regiment, I have directed General Stuart to remain with you, but so soon as he can be spared I wish you would direct him to return to the Valley District, as it might facilitate the organization by being in the Valley.

T. J. JACKSON, *Major-General.*

The parting between the regiment and General Elzey was affecting in the extreme, and there were but few dry eyes present after their good old General had delivered his parting speech.