

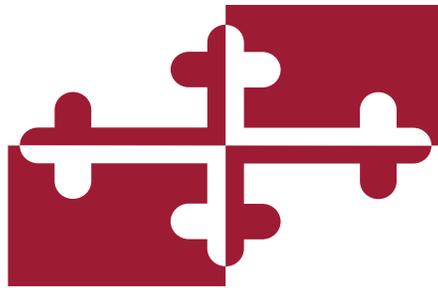
Maryland, My Maryland

He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother

It was cool and clear at first light this May 23, 1862. Another morning, and another fight loomed. Captain William Worthington Goldsborough, 31 years old, was tired, yet eager. This was what he and his friends had signed up for the previous year. Part of 1st Maryland Infantry Regiment, CSA, they had been at Manassas and a few other fights in Virginia in '61. Now they were with General T. J. "Stonewall" Jackson himself, chasing Yankees up and down this valley. After the battle at Manassas, General Robert E. Lee had sent Jackson to the Shenandoah Valley to tie down Union troops and keep them from reinforcing an anticipated Union movement against Richmond. The 1st Maryland had just caught up with General Jackson's force a few days earlier and had camped overnight near Front Royal, Virginia.



The Maryland state flag, colors of 1st Regiment Maryland Volunteer USA



The Crossland Banner, colors of the 1st Maryland Infantry CSA (also, the Maryland Secessionists flag)

Maryland had strong currents of Southern sympathy but did not secede — was restrained from seceding by federal intervention would be more accurate — so Southern-minded men like Goldsborough headed south to do what they could. Of course, not everyone in Maryland was of that persuasion. Heck, not even everyone in William's family was. His brother, Charles Edward Goldsborough, went and joined the Union army, winding up in the 1st Maryland Volunteer Infantry, USA. Coincidentally, Charles' regiment was close by Front Royal that morning, as well. Neither of the Goldsborough brothers expected the reunion that awaited them that day.

But let's back up a bit. Maryland was a Southern state, conflicted over the issue of secession. This can best be illustrated, perhaps, by looking at the state's returns in the 1860 general election: Southern Democrat John C. Breckinridge (supported slavery and the right to secede) received 45.93% of the vote in Maryland; Constitutional Union John Bell (supported slavery but opposed secession) received 45.14%; Democrat Stephen A. Douglas got 6.45% and Republican Abraham Lincoln a mere 2.48%. Each of states' 8 electoral votes went to Breckinridge (as did neighboring Delaware's 3 electoral votes). There certainly was a pull for secession, but whether it ultimately would have seceded is a moot question — the Union wouldn't let Maryland go.

Not only did Maryland surround the nation's capital, its central counties, with the strongest Southern ties, lay athwart the main axes of travel (rail and road) from the northeast to Washington, D.C., and southeastern counties controlled the city's Potomac River access, not to mention the middle and

southern reaches of the Chesapeake Bay. From the very beginning, securing Washington was a top priority of the Union government throughout the war. In mid-April 1861 militia units from northern states were set in motion quickly to move to and reinforce the Union garrison there. Their first “bump” was Baltimore, Maryland.

With the National Road and the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad linking with major markets in the Midwest, Baltimore had become a major shipping and manufacturing center. The first units to move through Baltimore were several hundred militia volunteers from Pennsylvania, on April 18, 1861. Baltimore’s mayor, George William Brown, and police chief, George Proctor Kane, anticipated unrest and tried to maintain calm in the city, but southern sympathizers’ hostility soon manifested into a riot. The Pennsylvania militia made it through, but US Brevet Lieutenant General Winfield Scott, Commanding General of the United States Army, understood that transiting Baltimore would continue to be problematic for Union troops.

The next transit was by militia units from Boston, headed by Massachusetts Brigadier General Benjamin Franklin Butler. A colorful character throughout the war, to say the least, he showed operational brilliance in handling the situation, ultimately taking control of Baltimore and declaring martial law on May 13.

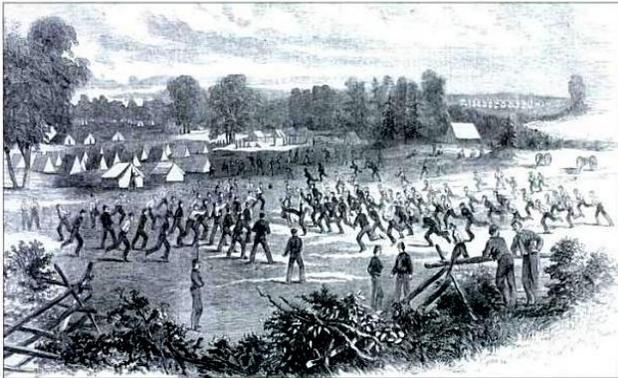
In the meantime, on April 22, Maryland Governor Thomas Hicks had announced that the state legislature would meet to consider secession. He declared, however, that it would not meet in Annapolis, the state capitol, but rather in Frederick, Maryland – a city much stronger in Union sympathy. On April 29 the Maryland General Assembly voted 53-13 against secession. That was good for the North. It also voted not to reopen rail links with the North and requested that President Lincoln remove Union troops from Maryland. This was not good. It was, in effect, a compromise between staying in the Union, but not wanting to participate in any military actions with states to its south.

Like most compromises, that arrangement pleased almost no one. Moreover, this was not the end of Federal intervention in the civil governance of Maryland – a set of actions that we won’t belabor here. Suffice it to say here that many felt those actions to be unwarranted, heavy handed, and an assault on Maryland’s sovereignty.* Those with strong sympathy and attachment to the South voted with their feet. William Worthington Goldsborough was one of them. In the company of others, he went to Point of Rocks, crossed the Potomac, and set off to join the Confederate army.

* For those wanting more on this, you can find a good Southern “Secess” view is [Confederate Military History, vol II, Maryland](#) (Atlanta: Confederate Publishing Company, 1899). And, of course, there’s always Wikipedia and Google.)

As with many states, troops from Maryland fought on both sides during the Civil War. On the Confederate side, these included, in addition to the 1st Maryland Infantry, CSA, a second infantry regiment (formed after 1st Md Inf was disbanded), a few smaller infantry formations, two cavalry regiments, and various artillery units. A lot more served on the Union side—a total throughout the war

of some nine line infantry regiments (including the 19th Inf Reg USCT), eleven “rear area” guard regiments, and a few smaller infantry guard units, along with various cavalry and artillery units.



Camp Johnson, near Winchester, Virginia. This engraving shows the First Maryland Regiment "playing football before evening parade". Published in Harper's Weekly on August 31 1861. The Marylanders wear uniforms received in May and June of 1861.

The 1st Maryland Infantry, CSA was formed June 16, 1861, at Winchester, Virginia. It was organized by consolidating several companies of Marylanders, mostly from Baltimore and vicinity, that had already formed in Virginia. It participated in the First Battle of Bull Run as part of Brigadier General Kirby Smith's 4th Brigade. After winter encampment in Centerville, Virginia, the regiment had been reassigned to Jackson's "Army of the Valley".

As described by CSA Brigadier General John D. Imboden, "On October 28th General Johnston ordered Jackson to Winchester to assume command of his [Valley D]istrict, and on the 6th of November the War Department ordered his old 'Stonewall' brigade and six thousand troops under command of Brigadier-General W. W. Loring to report to him. These, together with Turner Ashby's cavalry, gave him a force of about ten thousand men all told." (Battles and Leaders of the Civil War, vol. 2, pg. 282 – an excellent treatment on the Valley campaign, by the way). With this initial "Army", Jackson commenced his campaign in the Shenandoah Valley. It ran from March through June 1862. The 1st Maryland CSA, part of the reinforcements provided to Jackson as his campaign developed, joined in the closing days.

And this brings us back to the Goldsborough brothers. William was a Captain, commanding Company A. After wintering in Centerville, Virginia, the 1st Maryland CSA, broke camp on March 8, 1862, and after screening and picket duty in the area they were ordered to the Valley. Marching through Culpeper and Gordonsville, they crossed the Blue Ridge Mountains at Swift Run Gap and finally caught up with Jackson's force. From there it was on to Luray and by May 22 they were within an easy day's march of Front Royal.

Near noon on May 23, the regiment was within about three miles of Front Royal when they received an order from Jackson to "...move with all dispatch and...develop the enemy's position at Front Royal." They quickly took the town and then discovered that the 1st Maryland USA, along with other Union units, were to their immediate front. William's company, along with the rest of the regiment, pressed forward and in a sharp fight dislodged the Union Marylanders, capturing many prisoners in the process. Among the prisoners captured by William's Company A was Charles who, indeed, now enjoyed a brief reunion with his brother.

"Thus ended the battle of Front Royal, in which First Maryland met First Maryland, and the scenes that were enacted that night when the prisoners were brought in are indescribable, for in the ranks of each



were found dear friends and in some cases near relatives, and the attention shown the vanquished by the victors did much to cheer them in their hour captivity.” (The Maryland Line in the Confederate Army 1861-1865, W. W. Goldsborough, pg. 43.)

This was the only time during the Civil War that a pre-war unit that had split between North and South subsequently engaged “itself” in battle. As with various other Southern states, border states and secessionist alike, Maryland was torn asunder. The very fabric of its society was pulled in different directions, and while they didn’t secede, they were truly a political and military battleground throughout the war, with all of the peril and hardship that implies.

Both William and Charles survived the Civil War. William had been born in Frederick, Maryland, on October 6, 1831. A Captain in the 1st Maryland CSA at Front Royal, he went on to the 2nd Maryland CSA in the fall of 1862 as a Major when the 1st Maryland, its initial twelve-month terms of enlistments having expired, was disbanded. He was severely wounded in the assault into the “slaughterpen” on Culp’s Hill (Gettysburg, Day 3; 2nd Maryland was part of BG George H. Stuart’s infantry brigade, Johnson’s Division, Ewell’s II Corps) and was captured (either on the hill itself or among the wounded left behind in the general Confederate withdrawal on Day 4). He would spend time as a POW at Ft. Delaware, Morris Island, Fort Pulaski, and back to Fort Delaware. He was released in July 1865, after being a POW for more than two years. He authored The Maryland Line in the Confederate Army 1861-1865 (Baltimore: Guggenheim, Weil & Co., 1900). In it he paints a Pollyannaish picture of the Maryland units in Confederate service, but nonetheless provides valuable insight into units, commanders, and events. He died December 25, 1901, apparently from the aftereffects of a difficult surgery. At one point he said to his wife, “Should the end come, don't bury me among the Yankees here; send my body to Broad-street station, and ship it to ... Baltimore." And so it was.



Charles had been born December 16, 1834, at Graceham, Frederick County, Maryland. He began the practice of medicine in Hunterstown, Pennsylvania in 1855 (in Adams County, just a few miles north of Gettysburg). He entered the United States Army at Frederick, Maryland soon after the battle of Ball’s Bluff (October 21, 1861). His chronology gets murky here. What seems clear is that he followed a medical career in the Union Army. He spent time in Libby prison (the Confederate prison in Richmond, Virginia), from which he was paroled in October 1863. In December 1863 he was assigned to Fort Delaware, a Union prison near Delaware City, Delaware.

While assigned to duty at Fort Delaware, Charles had a second reunion with William, who was recuperating from wounds received at Gettysburg. He also found there his other brother, Eugene, who had served in William’s Company A, 1st Maryland CSA and later with Harry Gilmer’s cavalry battalion. (I cannot find the date or circumstances of his capture.) William would recover from his wounds, but Eugene died a POW.

In the spring of 1864 Dr. Goldsborough went to Bermuda Hundred, on the James River, and with his regiment joined Major General Benjamin F. Butler. He participated in the siege of Petersburg, where he was wounded July 6, 1864, and sent to Chesapeake Hospital. After his recovery, being unfit for field duty because of disability contracted in the service, he was assigned to duty at Lincoln Hospital, in Washington, D. C., where he remained until August 1865. He returned to Hunterstown, resumed his general medical practice, and engaged extensively in farming. He died there on October 18, 1913.

The Goldsboroughs were part of a long history of Marylanders in military service — a thread that goes back to colonial times. It has continued to this day as the 175th Infantry Regiment (“Fifth Maryland”), which carries the lineage of continuous service to the state and to the nation ever since. It is the seventh oldest regiment in the United States.

Those military roots date back to 25 March 1634, when two militia captains were amongst 150-odd colonists who disembarked in the new world to form the first European settlement in what would become Maryland. Although all able-bodied males were obligated to serve in the militia, the captains also called upon volunteers to establish a professional armed force known as the “trained bands.”

As the Maryland colony grew and expanded, so did its militia, which not only guarded the colony, but sometimes fought each other (shades of times to come). When civil war broke out in England in 1642, Maryland was deeply affected. Fighting between royalists and parliamentarians in Maryland dragged on intermittently for nearly 20 years.

Other European wars also affected the colony. During the French and Indian War, Maryland militiamen, including several volunteer companies known collectively as the “Maryland Forces,” fought alongside the British to secure the frontier during the conflict, which lasted from 1756 to 1763.



175th Infantry
“Dignity and Protection”

The 175th Infantry, the “keeper of the Holies” as it be, traces its roots to the Baltimore Independent Cadets, organized December 3, 1774 in Baltimore. Commanded by Captain Mordecai Gist and known as the Maryland 400, it was to become the nucleus of Colonel William Smallwood's 1st Maryland Regiment, which originated as a Maryland Battalion of the Maryland State Troops on January 14, 1776, and subsequently was organized in the spring at Baltimore (three companies) and Annapolis (six companies). (The United States Marine Corps traces its roots to the Continental Marines of the Revolutionary War, formed by Captain Samuel Nicholas by a resolution of the Second Continental Congress on 10 November 1775. That date is regarded and celebrated as the date of the Marine Corps' birthday. Thus,

the 175th Infantry of the Maryland Army National Guard, lineage-wise, is officially 11 months older than the USMC!)

The Maryland Regiment had joined the Continental Army barely two weeks before the Battle of Long Island. Unlike most of Washington's Army, the Maryland contingent had been well drilled at home and were so well equipped that the Regiment became known at home as the Dandy Fifth, and to the rest of the Army as "macaronis", the then-current word for dandies. (Shades of "Yankee Doodle Dandy", perhaps?) In that battle, the "Maryland Line" repeatedly charged a vastly superior British force, buying time for the Continental Army to escape. It is from this incident that Maryland draws one of its official nicknames, "The Old Line State." This was the first time the American Army used the bayonet in combat. Later in the war, the Maryland militia made a number of additional bayonet charges, including at Cowpens, where their charge turned impending defeat into victory, and at Guilford Courthouse, where they forced the elite British Foot Guards to retreat. Department of the Army extends campaign participation credit to 175th Infantry for battles and campaigns throughout the Revolution.

Maryland militia fought in the War of 1812, being instrumental in the Battle of North Point in 1814. The 175th Infantry is one of only nineteen Army National Guard units with campaign credit for the War of 1812.

Maryland militia remained in service throughout the antebellum period, eventually principally organized as the First Light Division, Maryland Volunteer Militia. The division comprised two brigades, the 1st and the 2nd. The 1st Brigade included three regiments: 1st Cavalry, 1st Artillery, and 5th Infantry. When the Civil War began and the people of the state of Maryland were torn asunder, members of the "Dandy Fifth" (as it is still known today) chose their individual allegiance and paths. Emblematic of the rest of the regiment, William W. Goldsborough went South; his brother Charles went North. Their paths led them to their reunion at Front Royal on May 23, 1862.

Interestingly, the official lineage of the 175th Infantry actually runs through the Confederacy, tracing its heritage through the "Dandy Fifth" in Baltimore. It became known in the CSA as the Maryland Line and carries campaign participation credit for First Manassas, Peninsula, Valley, Gettysburg, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, and Appomattox. (I had the honor to command 1/175th Inf, MdARNG, 1981-1984, at the time, headquartered in the Fifth Regiment Armory in Baltimore. One of the first things I did was resume the posting of Confederate colors in the battalion honor guard. This wasn't a social or cultural statement of any kind. It was in recognition of our unit's history and official lineage – nothing more; nothing less. I don't know if the battalion carries them today, but it was not challenged back then.)

When war with Spain was declared in 1898, the Maryland National Guard was mobilized. The 5th Regiment made it as far as Tampa, Florida, lost a score of men to illness, but never saw combat. Other units served on garrison duty in the United States.

175th Infantry campaign participation credits pick up again with World War I. After a seven-month deployment to Eagle Pass, Texas in support of General Pershing's Mexican Punitive Expedition to capture Pancho Villa (who was chased and routed, but not captured), the "Dandy Fifth" became part of the newly activated 29th Infantry Division in France with campaign participation credit for Meuse-Argonne and Alsace 1918.

The 175th Infantry itself was back in the fray in World War II. Part of the then-reactivated 29th Infantry Division, it was second wave at Omaha Beach on D-Day, June 6, 1944. It earned participation credit for Normandy (with Arrowhead), Northern France, Rhineland, and Central Europe.

The 175th Infantry did not deploy in either the Korean War or the War in Vietnam, although it was part of the Ready Reserve for the latter. Elements also served on peacekeeping duty in Bosnia and Kosovo.

The attack on 9/11 brought the largest and most sustained call-up of the National Guard since World War II. This included the 175th Infantry, which deployed to Iraq in 2007 and earned campaign participation credit for Iraqi Surge.

It was last activated for federal service with Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) Mission #55 in the Sinai Peninsula (deployed May 2011 – April 2012). In 2018, it is assigned for its federal mission to 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 28th Infantry Division, organized as a light infantry battalion. When not in federal service, it is overseen by the 58th Troop Command, Maryland Army National Guard.

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