

Young Marylanders in Gray

As many as 15,000 Marylanders served with the Confederate forces, and the Rebel service of several former MAC students among that number began with a harrowing trip south to enlist.

In July 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Militia Act of 1862, declaring all able-bodied men between the ages of 18 and 45 subject to militia service and setting the stage for a national draft. Within a few weeks, he issued a call for 300,000 men that, if not answered by volunteers, would consist of militia members. The growing possibility of being drafted to serve for the hated Union cause pushed many Confederate sympathizers to take drastic action to join the other side.

Four MAC classmates, William N. Bean, James P. Hambleton, Robert B. Waring, and his younger brother, William, enlisted in Charlottesville, Virginia, on the same day, September 10, 1862. They had all "run the blockade," the term used to describe the dangerous journey across disputed territory. It required keeping the plan quiet at home, knowing who could be trusted along the way, and steering clear of Union scouts and boats assigned to flush them out. For James P. Hambleton and Robert B. Waring, the risk paid off. About a month after their enlistment, their names appeared in the Baltimore *Sun* on a list of drafted men.

Once mustered into Company B of the 1st Maryland Cavalry, the paths of the MAC classmates diverged, but their records reveal hardship-filled experiences of captivity and exchange, punctuated by bouts of illness common to Civil War soldiers on both sides.

William N. Bean was captured and released as part of a prisoner exchange in December 1862. In late 1863, he was hospitalized for over a month with skin disease before returning to duty. Captured again in March 1865, he was kept briefly at Fort Monroe in Virginia, then transferred to Point Lookout Prison in southern Maryland. After signing an oath of loyalty on June 10, 1865, he was released to return to his home in St. Mary's County.

James P. Hambleton was seized on July 4, 1863, at Monterey Pass, as Confederate troops retreated from Gettysburg. He was held briefly at Fort Delaware, then later at Fort McHenry. Treated in Baltimore and Richmond hospitals for chronic diarrhea, he was furloughed until officially exchanged for Union prisoners. By early 1864, he was back with his company and remained with it until the end of the war.

The military service of Robert and William Waring was much shorter in duration. Robert died of typhoid fever just four months after his enlistment, and William was discharged after his brother's death.

(Confederate.)
 H | 1 Cav. | Md.
 J. P. Hambleton
 Pvt., Co. B, 1 Batt'n Maryland Cavalry.*
 Appears on
 Company Muster Roll
 of the organization named above,
 for July & Aug., 1863.
 Enlisted:
 When Sept 10, 1862
 Where Charlottesville Va
 By whom Capt. Comack
 Period Three years or the war
 Last paid:
 By whom Maj. Harney
 To what time June 30, 1863.
 Pay for horse, \$ 25⁰⁰/₁₀₀
 Present or absent Absent
 Remarks: 3 months of war
 Captured July the 4th
 1863. Honor in Service
 2 mo 4 days

(Confederate.)
 H | 1 Cav. | Md.
 J. P. Hambleton
 Pvt., 1 Regt. Md. Cav.
 Appears on a
 Record
 of paroled prisoners; Provost Marshal's Office,
 Middle Military Department.
 Reported May 12, 1865.
 Deserted, captured }
 or surrendered }
 Where Winchester, Va.
 When Apr 22, 1865
 Paroled Paroled
 Oath Capt. Vaughan A. P. M. and
 By whom administered Capt. in B. Parsons
 When May 12, 1865
 Where Falls Md
 Winchester Va?
 Former residence Talbot Co. Md.
 Destination Talbot Co. Md.
 Remarks:
 o. 236; page 216.
 W. Bonard
 Copyist.

Attention MARYLANDERS!
 The undersigned is raising a Company for the Maryland Line, now rapidly organizing in Richmond. He will be in Charlottesville at the Parish House, on Saturday morning; at Staunton, at the Virginia Hotel, on Saturday evening and Sunday morning, and after that in Richmond, 12th Street, three doors from Main. Persons wishing to join can be mustered in on application, and transportation furnished to Richmond.
McHENRY HOWARD.
 Late A. D. C. to Gen'l. C. S. Winder.

(Confederate.)
 B | 1 Cav. | Md.
 Wm Bean
 Pvt., 1 Ind. Cav.
 Name appears as signature to an
 Oath of Allegiance
 to the United States, subscribed and sworn to at
 Point Lookout, Md., June 10, 1865.
 Place of residence St. Mary's Co. Md.
 Complexion Dark; hair Dark
 Eyes Dark; height 5 ft. 10 1/2 in.
 NOTE: Released at Point Lookout, Md., June 10, 1865, by G. O. No. 109, A. G. O.
 Remarks:
 Number of roll:
 21; sheet 2
 (665) R. B. Bradley Copyist.

(Confederate.)
 B | 1 Cav. | Md.
 Wm Bean
 Pvt., Co. B, 1 Batt'n Maryland Cavalry.*
 Appears on
 Company Muster Roll
 of the organization named above,
 for July & Aug., 1863.
 Enlisted:
 When Sept 10, 1862
 Where Charlottesville Va
 By whom Capt. Comack
 Period Three years or the war
 Last paid:
 By whom Maj. Harney
 To what time June 30, 1863.
 Pay for horse, \$ 24⁰⁰/₁₀₀
 Present or absent Present
 Remarks:
 *The 1st Battalion Maryland Cavalry was organized November 12, 1862. The designation was changed to the 1st Regiment Maryland Cavalry by S. O. No. 15, A. & I. G. O., dated January 19, 1864.
 Book mark:
 (642) J. O. New Copyist.