CIRCLE

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NO. 51

TERMS OF PUBLICATION

The Carlisle Hearto is published weekly on a large sheet containing twenty eight columns, and farnished to subscribers at \$1.50 if paid structly in advance; \$1.75 if paid within the year; or \$2 in all cases when payment is delayed until after the expiration of the year. No subscriptions received for a less period than six menths, and none discontinued until all arrearages are paid, unless at the option of the publisher. Appears sont to subscribers living out of Cumberland county must be paid for in advance, or the payment assumed by some responsible person living in Cumberland county. Those terms will be rigidly adhered to in all cases.

HOW IT OCCURRED.

VINDICATION OF COL. BAKER!

Correspondence of N. Y. Thioune.

The late terrible disaster by a portion of the troops of Gen. Stone's division on the Upper Potomic, on Monday, the 21st October, has been so variously reported, and its true history appears to be so very

ADVERTISEMENTS,

Advertisements will be charged \$1.00 per square of twelve lines for three insertious, and 25 cents for each subsequent insertion. All advertisements of less than twelve lines considered as a square.

Advertisements inserted before Marriages and deaths Renats per line for first insertion, and 4 cents per line for subsequent insertions. Communications on subjects of limited or individual interest will be charged 5 cents per line. The Proprieter will not be responsible in tuniques for errors in advertisements. Oblinary notices or Marriages not exceeding five lines, will-be inserted without charge.

JOB PRINTING.

U. S. GOVERNMENT. President — Aska haw Lincoln.
Vice President — Hawsinal Hawlin.
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Southery of Interior—Calab Shifts.
Southery of Interior—Calab Shifts.
Southery of War—Shan Cameron.
Southery of War—Shan Cameron.
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Allitant General - E. M. Boble.
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COUNTY OFFICERS President Judge-Hon, James H. Graham, Associate Judges-Hon, Michael Cocklin, Hugh Struct. Discret Attorney-J W. D. Gillelon

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High Sheriff — Thompson Rippev: Deputy,
Guputy Treasurer — John Gutshall.
Coroner — David Smith
Coroner — David Smith
Coroner — Lovid Smith
Control Commissioners — James H. Waggner, Geo.
Hiller, Michael Kast. Clerk to Commissioners, James

Ar. strong.
Directors of the Poor-Wm, Gracey, John Miller,
Wm. Cornman, Superintendent of Poor HouseHeury Suyder. BOROUG. OFFICERS.

CHURCHES,

Second Probyterian Church, corner of South Hanover and Ponfrot Streets. Rev. Mr. Eells, Pastor. Services commence at 11 o'clock A. M., and 7 o'clock P. M.

St. John's Church, Prot. Epissopal) northeast angle of Centre's pater. Rev. Francis J. Clore, Rector. Services at 11 o'clock A. M., and 3 o'clock. P. M.

English butheran Church, Beddord between Main and Therefore A. M., and 6 o'clock P. M.

German Reformed Church, Beddord between Main and Therefore A. M., and 6 o'clock P. M.

German Reformed Church, Louther, between Hanover and Pitt Streets. Rev. Samuel Philips, Pastor. Services at 11 o'clock A. M. and 6 o'clock P. M.

Methodist E. Church, Girst charge corner of Main and Pitt Streets. Rev. Joseph A. Ross, Pastor. Services at 11 o'clock A. M. and 6 o'clock P. M.

Methodist E. Church, Girst charge corner of Main and Pitt Streets. Rev. Joseph A. Ross, Pastor. Services at 11 o'clock A. M. and 6 o'clock P. M.

Methodist E. Church, Girst charge, Pastor. Services at 11 o'clock A. M. and 6 o'clock P. M.

Methodist E. Church, second charge.) Rev. Herman M.

Johnson Pastor. Services in Emery M. E. Church at 11 o'clock A. M. and 6 o'clock P. M.

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Methodist E. Church, second charge.) Rev. Herman M.

Johnson Pastor. Services in Emery M. E. Church at 11 o'clock A. M. and 6 o'clock P. M. Johnson d'astor. Services in Emory M. E. Church at 11 o'chock A. M. and 3/2 P. M.
St. Patrick's Cathoute Church, Pomfret near East st.
St. Patrick's Cathoute Church. Services every other
Sarbath at 10 o'chock. Vespers at 3.
Germen Latheran Church corner of Pomfret and
Bedird streets. Rev. G. A. Struntz Pastor. Services at
11 o'chock, A. M. and 6/2 o'chock. P. M.
23 When changes in the above are necessary the
proper persons are requested to notify us.

DICKINSON COLLEGE. Ray, H. M. Johnson, D. D., President and Professor of

Moral Science.
James W Marshall, A. M.
William C. Wilson, A. M., Professor of Natural Science
and Carator of the Museum.
Rev. Win. L. Boswell, A. M., Professor of Greek Lau-Ruy, Win, L. Bosweii, A. A., Standard and Literature.
Samuel D. Hillman, A. M., Professor of Mathematics.
John K. Stayman, A. M., Professor of Latin Languages and Literature.
A. P. Mullin, A. M., Principal of the Grammar School.

BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS. Cornman, C.P. Humerich, J. Hamilton, Secretary, Jam. W. Eby, Treasurer, John Sphar, Messonger, Meet on the 1st Monday of each Month at 8 o'clock A. M. at Ed-

CORPORATIONS.

Canliste Derosit Bank.—President, R. M. Henderson, Cashier, W. M. Beetem; Asst. Cashier, J. P. Hasler; Teiler, Jan. Roney; Clerk, C. B Plahler; Messenger, John Underwood; Directors, R. M. Henderson, John Zug, Samuel Wherry, J. B. Gorgas, Skiles Woodburn, R. G. Woodward, Col. Honry Logan, Hugh Stuart, and R. C. Woodward, Col. Honry Logan, thugh Stuart, and James Anderson.

Cumberland Valley Rail Road Company.—President, Frederick Watts: Secretary and Treusurer, Edward M. Biddle: Superintendent, O. N. Lull. Passenger trainstwice a day. Eastward leaving Carlisle at 10:10 o'clock A. M. and 2:44 o'clock P. M. Two trains every day Westward, leaving Carlisle at 9:27 o'clock A, M., and 3:39 P. M.

Carling Ray And Water Company.—President, Lemination of the Carling Ray and Carling Ray a

3.39 P. M.
CARLISLE GAS AND WATER COMPANY.—President, Lemuel Told: Treusurer, A. L. Sponsier; Superintendent, George Wise: Directors, F. Watts, Wun. M. Beetem. E. M. Biddle, Heory Saxton, R. C. Woodward, John B. Bratton, F. Gardner, and J-shn Campbell.
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SOCIETIES.

Cumberlar Star Lodge No. 107, A. Y. M. meets at Marion Hall on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of every Mouth.

St. Johns Lodge No 269 A. Y. M. Meets 3d Thursday of each month, at Marion Hall.
Carlisle Lodge No 91 I. O. of O. F. Meets Monday evening, at Trouts building.

FIRE COMPANIES.

The Union Fire Company was organized in 1769. President. E. Cornman; Vice President. Samuel Wetzel; Secretary, J. D. Hampten; Treasurer, P. Mon yer. Company meets the first Saturday in March, June, September, and December.

The Cumberland Fire Company was instituted February 18, 1809. President. Thos. Thom son; Secretary Philip Quigley; Treasurer, E. D. Quigley The cempany meets on the third Saturday of January, April, July, and October. meets of the three Company was instituted in March, 255. President, H. A. Sturgeon: Vice President, C. P. Humrich; Secretary, William D. Halbert; Treasurer, Joseph W. Ozilby. The company meets the second Thursday of January, April, July, and October.
The Empire Hook and Ladder Company was instituted in 1859. President, Wm. M. Porter; Vice President, John O. Amos; Treasurer, John Compbell; Secretary, John W. Parls. The company meets on the first Friday in January, April, July and October.

RATES OF POSTAGE.

Postage on all letters of one-half ounce weight or under, 3 conts pre paid, except to California or Oregon, which is 10 cours prepaid. — within the County, free. Within the State 13 cents per year. To any part of the United States 20 cents. Postage on all transient papers

BATTLE OF BALL'S BLUFF! HOW IT OCCURRED.

and its true history appears to be so very important to the community, that I have thought it worth the while to wait until the official reports of the leading officers engazed would instruct us in all branches of the programme, as well as in the actual fight. I regret to say, however, that, even at this late date, there are points of inquiry, which I have found it impossible

to get intelligibly answered; and deficinces occur even in the principal reports, The Carlisto Herald JOB PRINTING OFFICE is the largest and most complete establishment in the county. Four, good Presses, and a general variety of material suited for plain and Fancy work, of every kind, enables us to do Job Printing at the shortest notice and on the most reason the forms. Persons in want of Bills, Blacks or anything in the Jobbing line, will find it to the rint rost to give us a call. which serve to bewilder rather than in orders, through other channels, and with Acutral and Cocal Information. explanatory dates from other sources, it would be difficult to understand the real philosophy of his ex raordinary move-

The general reader has followed the progress of the army of the Potomac, from the time when the bristling tide of the three months' men, headed by the bayonets of the "Seventh," poured down Broadway to Washington, till, in its ignorant pride, it rashly overflowed the heights at Centreville, and was shattered amid the masked batteries at Manassas. The public saw its dejected fragments gathered up; they likewise saw it tendery re-organized and infused with a fresh llife by a new and capable commander: and they experienced a substantial gratification when they were informed that the vacancies made by the retirement of incompetent pretenders, should thenceforth be filled only by men of known ability and seasoned courage. By regular degrees we beheld the increasing host extend its immense wings till it studded the entire eastern bank of the upper Potomac on the right, and stretched down to Port Tobacco on the left; growing all the while in the center, until all together it had accumulated the vast bulk of nearly a quarter of a million of men. The season of Chief Burgess—John Nobe.

Assistant Burgess—John Kobe.

Assistant Burgess—John Kobe.

The Court of Grand Council—John Gutshall, Wal. W. Dale, J. R. Irvine High Council—John Gutshall, Wal. W. Dale, J. R. Irvine High Council—Jas. E. Masonhelmer.

High Council—Jas. E. Masonhelmer.

High Council—Jas. E. Masonhelmer.

High Council—Jas. B. Masonhelmer.

High Council—Jas. B. Masonhelmer.

High Council—Jas. B. Masonhelmer.

Justines of the Peace—A. Lo. Sponsler, David Smith Michael Holcomb, Abm. Dehulf peril and of serious disaster seemed surely

mass of soldiers, tending toward the line of the Confederates, insensibly inclined First Presbyterian Church, Northwest angle of Control Presbyterian Church, Northwest angle of Control The lighter body back; and as it became for Square. Rev. Conway P. Wing Pastor.—Services more capable of applying its pressure with burg, which was the connecting angle between Winchester and the Loudon road, should be overflowed, and enveloped within our lines. Accordingly, and as a proper preliminary to such demonstration, Gen. McClellan ordered Gen. McCall, whose division was established at Langley's, in Virginia, some distance to the south of Leesburg, to make a reconnoissance in force in that direction, pushing on to Drainsville, and even beyond that to Goose Creek, if necessary, to perfect

his observations. On the next day, information of this movement was dispatched to Gen Stone, whose division, as a portion of Gen. Banks' command, lay on the eastern bank of the Potomac, about thirty miles from Washington, and was nearly opposite to Leesburg. The following is the dispatch:

"To Brigadier General Stone, Poolesville:
"Gen, McClellan desires me to Inform you that Gen.
McCall occupied Drainsville yesterday, and is still
there. Will send out heavy reconcissances to day in
all directions from that point. The General esires that
you keep a good lookout upon Leesburg to see if this
movement has the effect to drive them away. Perhaps
a slight demonstration on your part would have the
effect to move them.

movements and a slight demonstration on your part as a slight demonstration on your part office to move them.

"A V. COLBURN, Ast. Adjt.-Gen" When Gen. Stone received this mesage, which, it will be perceived, was very limited in its character, he had one company of the 15th Massachusetts, Captain Philbrick, stationed upon a narrow slip of land, lying in the center of the Potoinac, called Harrison's Island. This Island is nearly three miles long and about two hundred yards in width, with the river running swiftly in between the two main shores, being about a mile, with the largest width of water on the Maryland side. Across this Island runs a route between the shores, which is known as Coonrad's Ferry; and stationed at its Maryland end was Bunting's New York battery, under Lieut. Bramball. About three miles further down, and near to Poolesville, which is Gen. Stone's headquarters, is another crossing, known as Edward's Ferry. The distance between these two Ferries along the river, on the Maryland side, is between three and four miles making the base of an acuto triangle with Leesburg, which is distant about ten

miles -Gen. Stone, on receiving the dispatch sent four additional companies of the 15th Massachusetts, under Col. Devins, to Harrison's Island, with directions for him to cross twenty men to the Virginia shore that afternoon, with orders for them to reconnoitre as far as possible on the road to Leesburg, and report. He then dispatched Col. Leee with a battalion of the Massachusetts 20th, a section of Vaughn's Rhode Island battery, and the Tammany Regiment, under Col. Coggswell, to Coon-United States 20 cents. Postage on all transfent papers under 3 ounces in weight, I cent pre-paid or two cents radius. Advertised letters, to be charged with the cost the necessity of an ambalance. the necessity of an embarkation of a further force. To Edwards' Ferry, where CITORE ROOM FOR RENT.—The Rickett's battery was already stationed, large Store Room at the West end of Main Street.

It is fitted up with counters, and shelving and has a large and envared and convenient cellar. Possession given immediately. Enquire of Carliele, Pec. 21, '60-t.

ADAM SENSEMAN.

Michigan Volunteers, the Putnam Rang-

Van Allen. Encamped a few miles to next proceeding of Gen. Stone was to sether rear, but within handy reach, lay the lect the brigade and the commander to rows of tents. Finding a good position, brigade of Col. Baker, consisting of his whom he would intrust the important however, to conceal his force. Devins California battallion of 680 men; Baxter's operations of the following day. Upon a sent back a messenger to Stone, and con-Fire Zouaves, 900; Owen's Pennsylvania brief reflection, the majority of the requi-tinued his reconnoissance according to Regiment, 700; Morehead's Pennsylva- site conditions presented themselves in directions. In order to protect him while nia Regiment, 500; and the Harris Cav. favor of Col. Baker; and on the strength he was thus employed, the General, on dry, 140; making, in all, 2,920. Thus of his known gallantry, the extensive ex- receiving a report of his position, sent ten we have grouped before our minds all the perionce which he had acquired as one of cavalry to join him, and also directed Union forces which were destined to per- the most distinguished officers of the Lieut. Col. Ward of the 15th Massachuform a part in the bloody tragedy of the Mexican war, and what, perhaps, was setts, to move with his battalion to a pomorrow. Meanwhile, Gen McClellan, equally important, the affection of his sition on the right, in order that he might having been apprised by Gen McCall, troops, it was decided he should have com-protect the Colonel's flank on his return.

who had successfully arrived at Draines- mand. ville, that there were indications of the

ment of infantry appeared moving hastily river, and there halted, as if seeking a po-Gorman were at once deployed; but, no-

behind a hill, about a mile and a half dis and made a halt. Rickett's battery at flat-boats to be filled with men, to persnade them that we meditated an attack. The maneuver had the desired effect -

whether he measured this incident by last, for them to distinguish themselves loped toward Edward's Ferry. guess or by a watch; but, if with the in battle. He gave them but two hours Compared with the 6 minutes 36 seconds. raca-boat in the stillest water, the triumph is beyond all precedent. If propelled across by polls, as the scows at Cooprad's

Ferry were on the following day, the performance might be called almost miracu-After the disappearance of the rebel reiment, the afternoon wore away at Edwards' Ferry without any further incident, and night coming on, Gen. Gorcrossing for the night, while he, himself, remained with the Putnam Rangers, Van Allen's Cavalry, and the Rickett's Battery at Edwards' Ferry. At about 10 o'clock at night he received at this latter place a report of the reconnoissance of Capt. Philcovered a small camp of about 30 tents, but, though he approached it within 25 rods, he was not even challenged This statement seemed to indicate to Stone that the enemy has either retired from Leesburg, or held it with inferior force, and for the first time, the notion of making a brilliant coup by capturing Leesburg himself. The likelihood of this is very strong, for it not only agrees with all the previous and subsequent circumstances of the situation, but it is the only theory by which we can reasonably account for the extraordinary determination of an experienced army officer to cross several thous and men. with horses and artillery, over a broad and rapid river, without a preparation of pontoons, or even an inquiry as to whether they were boats or scows, or means of transportation of any kind whatever; especially after having aroused the enemy to vigilance against such a proceeding, by the feint to cross during the after-

But with this new determination in his mind, Gen. Stone immediately sent orders to Col. Devins, who was still on Harrison's Island, to cross with his four companies to the Virginia shore, and march silently toward the town under cover of the night, to the camp referred to. In the language of Gen. Stone's report, as printed in the newspapers, he was then prisoner during their gallop back. to attack it at daybreak, and destroy it, pursue the enemy as far as would be prudent, and then fall back immediately to the island, his return to be covered by a company of the Massachusetts 20th, to be posted on a bluff directly over the landing place. Col. Devins was further ordered l could be strengthened.

es. and two troops of Cavalry under Maj. These preliminaries being arranged, the | Philbrick, deceived by the uncertain light,

grouning his forces at Coonrad's and Edsition. Upon this the forces of General was merely a "battalion" of 680 men. it to have been the case.

Gorman were at once deployed; but, no llaving decided the point of the comprepare the remainder of the brigade to and notice the proceedings there.

was swollen and rapid with recent rains. started the California battalion off to Coon- Baker had reported to him in person, he rad's Ferry under Lieut.-Col Wistar, he explained to Baker the advance on Drainswhich is the best mile time of an 8-oared remained with the bulk of his troops, to ville, by McCall, and the whole position bring them on himself. THE OPERATIONS OF MONDAY. his brigade, Col. Devins was engaged in rossing from Harrison's Island to the regiment. He told him he was "ex-Virginia shore, with his four companies, but though he had begun the operation as early as 2 o'clock (the exact hour when ('ol. Baker received his orders,) it was dent, and night coming on, Gen. Gorman's Brigade, and the 7th Michigan, returned to camp. Gen. Stone, however, ordered the Tammany regiment, the companies of the 20th Massachusetts and the panies of the 20th Massachusetts, and the Vaughn Artillery to continue at Coonrad's on the bluff with 100 men to protect the "The means of transportation across," on the bluff with 100 men to protect the crossing and to cover the return. I repeat the Italies here, because it has been said in the report of Capt. Hincks that "the landing place on the Virginia shore was unfortunately selected," and it is proved that the capacity if any should recover of his guns, and the fire of the per that the approach, if any, should not cover of his guns, and the fire of the brick, who reported through the Quarter fall on Col. Baker. Col. Devins set out large infantry force, or to pass over remaster of the 15th Massachusetts, that he proceeded with his squad to within one mile of Leesburg; that no pickets of the enemy were out; that near dusk he discovered a small camp of about 30 tents. wards Ferry, to send over two companies force, and under no circumstance to pass upon the edge of the wood, near the town, of the 1st Minnesota, and make, from the beyond Lees burg, or a strong position besame direction, a reconnoissance, with a squad of Cavalry, along the Lecsburg road. This squad, which was thirty in number, was under the command of Mai, number, was under the command of Maj. Mix, and it was accompanied by Lord did so, to see it well supported by good it was then that he probably conceived, Tempest Vane, who, under the title of infantry." * * * "Leaving the mat-Capt. Chas. Stewart, was acting Adjutant ter of crossing more troops, or retiring General for Gen. Stone; and also by Capt. Murphy and Lieuts Gourand and Pierce. This party was directed to go no further along the Leesburg road, from Edward's Ferry, than the vicinity of a hidden battery, which was known to be in that direction. They were then to turn off and examine the country between that and Wistar, when at the Ferry: examine the country between that and Goose Creek, and, if attacked, to return rapidly to cover behind the skirmishers of the Minnesota 1st. This reconnoissance, says the report of Gen. Stone, was most gallantly conducted. The party proceeded along the Leesburg road until arrival. near the hidden battery, when it came suddenly upon a Mississippi regiment,

received its fire at less than forty yards, and then, whirling round, returned it with their revolvers as they hurried off. rider was seized by Gourand and drawn upon the saddle behind him; while the horse was replaced by the capture of one of the Virginia cavalry, whom they took Devins, meanwhile, with his Massa chusetts mon, kept advancing toward the treacherously silent town of Leesburg, but when he arrived at the position design nated as the site of the small camp, he found none there, discovering that

place. Col. Devins was further ordered to make close observation of the position, strength; and movements of the encmy, and in the event of their being no enemy visible, to hold a secure position until he could be strengthered.

• At this rate it would have required five hours for one of the command of Col. Baker, without bearing any inargua for mishaps, delays, and the difficulties always in the way of embarkation of horses and artillary. The means for the crossing of this army, over a vivor half a mile in hroadth were two small gover in the first channel and own in the second, the capacity of which will presently be seen.

Capt Candy of Gen. Lander's staff, ac-Before forming these conclusions, how- companied this squad, but for some reaenemy being in considerable force in the ever, and in further evidence that Gen. son "never explained to me," says Gen. lirection of Lecesburg: and there being, Stone's determination to cross the river Stone in his report, "neither of these orherefore, some danger of a flank attack was sudden, we have the following dis-ders were carried out." The cavalry rom Centreville, he dispatched orders to patch, which he sent to Gen. McClellan crossed and came back, but did not adhat officer, at a late hour on the after- late in the afternoon of Sunday, in answer vance from the shore, "and thus," conmoon of the 20th, to return with his divi- to the one which he had received from tinues Gen. Stone, "Col. Devins was desion from Drainsville back to his camp on the Commander-in-Chief in the morning : prived of the means of obtaining warning

the following (Monday) morning. He did not, however, at the same time, send word to that effect to Gen. Stone, evidently supposing that he would confine himself to the scope of the instructions forwarded through Col Colburn, and thus not exceed an observatory and auxiliary attitude, While, therefore, Gen. Stone was The troops to be placed at the disposal of the sequel would never have been wards' Ferries, and awaiting the report of of Col. Baker for the dangerous service known. But there is another thought the reconnoissance of Philbrick, the divi- were what I have already detailed as his that comes up here, and that is, that afon of McCall was moving from the scene. own brigade, with the 15th and 20th ter the embarkation feint of the previous It was evident, however, from General Massachusetts, and the Tammany Regi- afternoon had put the enemy upon the stone's position at Edwards' Ferry, that ment. With these were several batteries, watch, Devins was probably under obserthe movement of McCall had been felt, but it should be mentioned here that one vation from the moment of his landing. and had occasioned great perturbation a half of his California Regiment was away The enemy, acute in everything, and mong the forces of the Confederates, for at Monocacy, and it likewise should be having him quite safe, could afford, shark early in the afternoon of Sunday a regi- mentioned that the contingent of that like, to poise himself for a heavier prey. ment of infantry appeared moving hastily regiment which was left for Col. Baker's This would have been a natural artifice from the direction of Leesburg toward the use, and which the printed report of Gen under a full knowledge of the circum-Stone continually speaks of as a regiment, stances, and many military men believe

Leaving the Virginia picture for awhile, ticing his movements, the rebels passed mandership, Gen. Stone sent Col. Baker and without stopping to speculate upon word to have the 1st California Regi- the movements of the rebels, we must tant, by air line, from Edwards' Ferry, ment at Coonrad's Ferry at sunrise, and return to the right bank of the Potomac,

once prepared to give them a salute, and follow after an early breakfast. This According to the programme laid down at the same time Gen. Stone ordered three order was received by Col. Baker while for Gen. Baker, he had forwarded his sleeping in his tent, at precisely 2 o'clock California battalion to Coonrad's Ferry, a. m, on Monday morning. When it and they remained there under Wistar came to him he had received no previous until near 9 a. m., at which time Colonel The rebels, finding the shell dropping too intimation that he would be required to Baker, having put his brigade in shape, hot and close upon their neighborhood, move on the morrow, and had never found hurried forward and appeared at the Ferabruptly fled, their movements being not it necessary to direct his mind upon the ry among them. As soon as he rode up a little quickened by the yells of the Min inquiry as to whether or not there were he asked Wistar, who was sitting on the nesotans in the crossing boats. I will means to cross the river in force. No bank, if he had received any orders and just pause here to notice that Gen. Stone suggestion of that sort accompanied the what they were. "We are to cross," timed the crossing and recrossing of these boats, and says, in his report, that they performed each passage in about six or performed each passage in about six or izing an expedition would be suspected of seven minutes! The object of this appa-overlooking, Col. Baker tack it for granted or in the shape of boats, except two small ently sporting statement about such an that the means were ready, and probably sized wretched scows, he turned again to incident does not at first appear, but it never once directed his thoughts to the Wistar with a smile, and asked "what acquires a gravity and significance when subject. With the alacrity of a true solution are you going to cross in?" Wistar made near the close of his report he deplores at once, and going to his couch no as swer, as the condition of affairs the delays experienced in the transportation at once, and going to his Californians, seemed to answer of itself, upon which tion of the California troops by Col. Ba- informed them, in a tone of cheurful pro- the Colonel, with the same smile upon ker. Gen. Stone does not inform us mise, that the opportunity had come at his face, turned his horse's head and gal-For what took place at this interview

latter, it may fairly go upon the record as to prepare their rations, and then required between Col. Baker and Gen. Stone, we a great exploit; for the scows were loaded | them to march. In two hours later he | must refer to the General's report. Gen. down with 35 men each, and the stream stirred the whole brigade; and having Stone says in his report, that after Col. of affairs that had supervened; and then directed him to go to Harrison's Island, While Col. Baker was thus preparing assume command, and add to the While Col. Baker was thus preparing force, if necessary the 19th Massachusetts tremely desirous of ascertaining the exact position and force of the enemy in front, exploring as far as it was safe on the right toward Leesburg, and on the left what were already over, to his discretion, I gave him entire control of operations on the right." Gen. Stone, after these verbal directions, then handed Col. Baker a written order. Of the two found in his hat when he was slain, the following is

"H.Q. Corps of" [here a word was evidently carried off with the corner of the sheet by a bullet.]
"EDVARDES FRANK, Oct. 21, 1861.
"Col. E. D. Bakor, commander of Britades.
"Colorett in case of heavy firing in front of Harrison's Island, you will advance the California Regiment of your Brigade, or refire the regiments under Cols. Lee

The following was doubtless the one that came to him on the battle-field, and which having been read and commented

"Hadquartess Corps of Observation,"

"Edward's Forry, Oct. 22—11:50 a. m.

"Colo. E: D. Baker. Connander of District the force of the enemy is about 4,000, all told. If you can push them you may do so as far as to have a strong position near Leer, burg—If you can keep them before you, avoiding their batteries. If they pass Leesburg and take the Gum Splinger rand, you will not follow far, but soize the first good position to cover that read. Their, design is to draw us on, if they are obliged to retreat as far as Goose. Creek, where they can be re-enforced from Manassas, and have a strong position.

"Report frequently, so that, when they are pushed, Gorman can come up on their flank.

"Yours, respectfully and truly,

"CHAS. P. STONE, Brig—Gen. Commanding."

verbal and written, that Gen. Stone. having himself made no investigation as to the officiency of means of transporta-

left me about haif- past 9, and galloped off quickly to his command."

It has been said in the newspapers, on the authority of Lieut.-Col. Colburn, Assistant Adjutant General to McClellan, that Gen. Stone told him (Lieut.-Col. Colburn) that a part of his orders to the printed version of that dearways the standard Colburn and the printed version of that dearways the printed version of that dearways. Colburn) that a part of his orders to the printed version of that document: Col. Baker where that he, Col. Baker, was not to cross the river on any account, unless the means of transportation was sufficient to cross his entire force, but we do not find this in the printed copy of Gen. Stone's report; and it certainly is inconsistent with the written orders which Gen. Baker already had received; inconsistent also with the subsequent declarations of also with the subsequent declarations of Gen. Stone's report, for in one part of that document he defends the means of transportation as sufficient, had they been properly used: Indeed, the General goes far to establish the sincerity of that opinion by stating further in a subsequent conversation with Lieut.-Col. Colburn, that when in the afterness handled. when in the afternoon he heard the heavy precautions which the case required, the firing from the Virginia side, he supposed that all or nearly all of Baker's troops had gone, and was surprised to learn, after Col.

Release doubt that only about 1.700 me. Baker's death, that only about 1,700 men had made the transit, We are reminded at this point that Gen. Stone's headquarters at Edwards's Ferry was only about mitted that in addition to the laborions polthree miles from Coonrad's crossing, and he certainly had facilities to inform himself of the progress of affairs at this main point of operations at every hour, for messengers were going to and fro all day. That he did not make an inquiry of any of them on the subject should be taken as a proof, at least, of his high confidence of the experience and fidelity which Col. Baker would be sure to be the confidence of the experience and fidelity which Gen. Stone probably did not have which Col. Baker would be sure to be- before his mind when making his report, stow upon his task. With these expland commenting upon the conduct of the nations, we must regard all of the orders grey harred Senator and soldier who was so of Gen. Stone subsequent to the first one directing Col Baker, "in case he heard heavy firing in front of Harrison's Island," self of his own statement that the enemy numbered full 4 000 when he added the following the followi to cross with his California Battalion or "retire the companies of Lee and Devens," as being predicted entirely on the supposition that he was already on the Virginia side, with his entire brigade. Virginia side, with his entire brigade. Let us now see how "this gallant and energetic officer" performed his duty.

Gen. Stone, when he wrote this, knew, of course, that we had at no time more than 1,800 men on the Virginia side. He says, in Col. Baker returned to Coonrad's Ferry another part of his report, that they outfrom Gen. Stone's headquarters, accomnumbered us three to one. The latter statepanied by his son, and on the road back he informed Lieut. Baker that "the General had ordered him to cross and take command." It was 10 o'clock when father and on a grived book to the enemy, while 1.000 more would make our force only 2,800. If these are Gen. Stone's ideas as to the relative prowess of the opposing troops, they are highly flattering to the Union volfather and son arrived back to the Cali- unteers; but the generalship which declares Baker then did was to dispatch a messen-ger to hurry along the rest of the brigade, and his next was to order the California

required both the scows to embark a single company. I must say, moreover, that the river at this point was about 400 yards across in a direct line. In consequence, however, of the stiffness of the current, the distance was considerably ncreased by the route required, for the men were obliged to pole the scows some order that they might strike the ferry on the other. They were also obliged to pole them all the way across; and someimes when they did not hit the bank threy were forced to make a second cross-Not being members of the Minnewas to average a trip eve. y three-quarter of an hour. While this tedious and discerned a larger scow in a canal a shore heard this signal, his eye dilated and his forcements came upon the ground." if he could not succeed in "retiring them" dier's devoir. Wretched and contempticontemplate his pausing for his whole brigade as an act of proper caution; or would have been lost. Creatures such as force. these do not know how to reason upon nature's like that of Col Baker. Their

towards the music of the strife.

"Vory respectfully. Colonei, "Your most obedient servant, "CHAS. P. STONE, · "Brigadier General, Commanding."

One of our horses, was shot down, but his upon by Col. Coggswell, with the word "all right," the Colonel had passed into his hat without perusal.

It is evident from these orders, both

he, "this gallant and energetic officer crease from the other."

tion, took it for granted that there was than along the eastern shore; but here enough; and it was likewise evident that there was only a single seew for transpor-Col. Baker was too cheerful and high. tation, instead of two as on the Virginia spirited a soldier to make a complaint on side. It was of but little use, therefore, the very brink of battle, the cause of for his troops at Coonrad's Ferry to put which no one, at that hour, could remedy on extra boats from the canal, since the any better than himself. He therefore, limited accommodation in western channel to use again the words of Stone's report, could not be made responsive to any in-

Before leaving the island, Col. Baker put

Without stopping to reflect upon the disingenuousness of this style of statement and self of his own statement that the enemy numbered full 4,000 when he added the following remarks...

ornia troops. The first thing which Col. such a minority to be equal to attacking a torce of such large odds, while in position, will hardly meet the approval of military men. To say the least, these incongruities show a great want of method on the part of battalion to begin to cross. I have al- Gen. Stone as a writer, and reasonably lead ready described the means of transportation, and I have now to add that it less as a general. Had he failed with his figures, however, only upon paper, and the battle near Leesburg, aside from its carnage, could be blotted from the Rebel record, we might discuss the problem of the relative prowess of the opposing troops with much more tranquil feelings. The Massachusetts companies that were

engaged with the enemy at the time of Col. Baker's crossing, were those of Col. distance up the Maryland shore in Devens, which had been attacked shortly after they had taken their first position, between Leesburg and the river, by two or three hundred Mississippi riflemen .-A vigorous resistance, however, soon drove the Mississippians to the shelter of a wood. with a considerable loss, and the men of sota 1st, the best therefore they could do the 15th then fell back, slowly and in good order, until they united with the reserve of the Massachusetts 20th, which had taprovoking process was going on, aggrava- ken ground about a mile from the river's ied and delayed the more by the embar- bank. Here the gallant fellows made a tation of the artillery horses, the Colonel stand, and some desultory skirmishing took place, though Col. Devens was sensidistance up the river's bank, and gave di- | blc, all the while, that the enemy in the

rection that it should be got out at once, encircling woods, was momentarialy inand while this was being done he called creasing in audacity and force. But the for axes to construct a raft. But of axes undaunted front and steady heroism with there were none, and nearly two hours which the Massachusetts men repelled were expended in dragging the lumbering every assault, kept the battle on its feet. boat from the canal. While this was "Had we but known," said a rebel who going on, and at a little after eleven, there was taken prisoner, "how few you were ame the sudden sound of firing from the in numbers, we would have captured or Virg nia side. The instant Col. Baker killed every man of you before your reinface took light like that of the war-horse | Col. Baker landed at the crossing which

at the trumpet, and pointing to a little had been made common by the previous shallow skiff nodding at the bank, that detachment; but a more ineligible place would only hold about three persons, he could scarcely have been selected. It called for the strongest man in the bat- was a steep, clayey bank, rising precipitalion to row him at once across. He tously some fifteen or twenty feet high, was consequently soon affoat, and when and had become very miry with the tread he landed on the risland he dispatched of troops. Up this difficult assent it was orders back for the Tammany Regiment found almost impossible to wheel the light and Bunting's Battery to follow the Cali- howitzers, and when the James gun, unfornia Battalion, without loss of time, as | der Lieut. Bramhall arrived at a later they were much nearer than the remain- hour, it had to be dislodged, took up ing troops of his brigade. He knew by apart, upon a slab, and refixed upon its the firing, of course, that the troops of carriage when above. As soon as Col. Lee and Devens were engaged, and it Baker, after landing, had given the newas necessary they should be quickly resolvessary orders for the forming of squads, cued from their peril. Every prompting of as they arrived, he sent orders back for courage, duty, and humanity, as well as more artillery, and then taking two comevery obligation of Gen. Ston 's first panies, he proceeded by a winding road, order, required him to hurry to the fur-throwing forward skirmishes as he went, ther shore with whatever force he had, and, toward the field of battle. The Massachusetts men had now fallen back to withfrom their peril, to stand by and do a sol- in about three quarters of a mile from the river's bank, when Col. Baker came up ble indeed must be the soul which can with them. Seeking Colt Devous, he complimented him upon the brave and successful maneuver in which he had which would attempt to cast reproach withstood the presence of a superior force, upon his noble conduct by the infamous and then looking steadily around, he preogic that if fewer had gone over less pared to make a proper disposition of his

The field was an opening of about six acres, the woods stretching before the position only means of measurement uncoil from taken by the Massachusetts troops almost in the form of a crescent, and bending round the base qualities they own themselves, so as to threaten both ends of their line. Within these woods were already posted two any breadth of merit. Baker was a or three Mississippi Regiments—all being of man, and a brave one; a soldier, and a infantry—and one Virginia, and the whole good one, his joint orders were from his under the charge of Gen, Evans. The bat-God and his General, and in this case both the, thus far, had been kept only in a fitful, God and his General, and in this case both agreed, so, taking as many comrades as desultory way, the opposing coverts occasions he had about him, he moved at once sound of cheers. The Robels evidently. In the second river channel, which was time, in ignorance of our numbers and our