



THE BATTLE FIELD OF BALL'S BLUFF, OCTOBER 21ST

We present our readers with a rough sketch of the scene of the late engagement, made by our special correspondent who has been at the Ferry for several days—the route of the California Regiment, their position at different hours, the spot where BAKER fell, and the position of the troops at the time.

It will be seen that instead of Colonel BAKER "bringing on an engagement contrary to orders," he merely crossed according to orders, halted his men as soon as he could get a spot on which they could stand, and when the Massachusetts Regiments, who had crossed before him, were pursued down through this field, he marched to their rescue only a hundred yards and drove the Rebel back. He opened upon them with the two howitzers and one cannon, and dealt out devastation with every round, but only fired seven charges when all his gunners were shot.

The Rebels then swarmed around to the right

and opened on the Massachusetts Fifteenth, and in a few minutes the firing became general all around our heroic band. The Rebel force consisted of the Mississippi Brigade, Louisiana Brigade, Confederate Rifle Regiment, Virginia Eighth, and Tiger Zouaves, under General EVANS. We had not sixteen hundred men over the river when the fighting commenced, and four hundred were on picket, protecting the route to the river. After 2 1/2 P. M., our men were shot down faster than reinforcements could be brought over. For three hours and a half they held their ground, and repelled every attempt of the Rebels to make a bayonet charge.

After they retreated to the river, three separate charges were made up the bluffs to repel the Rebels, and it was about eleven before our men ran out of ammunition and surrendered to the Rebel crew, because they could not retreat and could no longer fight.

The defence of the Pass of Thermopylae sinks into insignificance in comparison to this gallant stand by our little band of heroes. Henceforth no man of them need ask for other evidence of their bravery, courage and valor than to show that they were with General BAKER at Ball's Bluff.

For much of the important information delineated on our map we are indebted to First Lieutenant JAMES JOHNSON, of Company N, who was one of the coolest men upon the field. After pushing off the last boat with our wounded, he sprang into the river and swam across amidst a shower of leaden hail poured upon him by the Rebels, who now swarmed along the shore. The letter A marked upon the map designates the point where a stream bed for four hours. At the point B is a bluff, covered with vines and bushes, up which the men were compelled to crawl.