

WAR REMINISCENCES.

FOOLISH BRAVERY.

The Dramatic End of a United States Senator-Colonel.

I was sitting one evening in the tent of the commanding general, Charles P. Stone, in Poolesville, Md., just this side of the Potomac river, the opposite shore being known as Ball's bluff, when an orderly announced "Senator Baker."

Stone was an inveterate cigarette smoker. Before noticing the orderly he lighted a cigarette, which he held faintly in his yellow stained fingers, and then with a quiet irony, which was characteristic of him said, half to himself and half to the group:

"I wonder if he comes as senator or officer. Ask the gentleman to walk in."

Senator Baker, in full colonel's togethery, entered with his bluff, hearty manner, and, after partaking of the barleycorn refreshments, opened fire at once.

"General," said he, "the public demand a fight. It is better that we should fight and be whipped than sit idle here, the target of universal criticism."

Now, bear in mind that Stone was in command of the division and Baker was in command of a regiment, his charge being subsequently enlarged to a brigade. Such talk from a senator was all very well, but from a subordinate officer, unasked, was not only intrusive and impertinent but a traversing of all official etiquette. Nobody understood this less than Baker; no one more keenly appreciated it than Stone.

After some considerable talk in this strain Stone looked up and said very quietly:

"Where are you quartered, colonel?" Baker seemed taken aback but answered him, whereupon Stone motioned once more to the jug (which motion was regarded and accepted as an invitation), rose, thereby intimating a desire to terminate the interview, and further said:

"I shall communicate with you tomorrow morning on a matter of some importance and trust you will be refreshed and ready to give us your cooperation."

Baker bowed himself out, went to the little house where he was stopping and two days after was ordered across the river. The battle of Ball's bluff has never been thoroughly, has never been clearly told to the lay mind.

Don't be alarmed. I don't intend to tell you anything about it, although I was there and saw it.

But, in the first place, imagine a river with bluffs on the other side; a small plateau this side of the bluffs fringes the river, woods thick and apparently impenetrable flank either side of the approach to the bluffs. The union troops crossed the river. All was quiet. They formed on the plateau; silence required, the order was given to proceed, when cannon belched from the bluff. Cross-fire from each side swept across the line of march.

Murderously assaulted and thrown into terrible confusion the troops reeled, faltered, rushed in confusion toward the river bank. There, by heroic effort on the part of Baker and several of Gen. Stone's staff, they were to a certain extent re-formed on the little plateau, which, like the entire distance to the heights beyond, was but twenty-five feet wide. Below it, some thirty feet down to the river, was a muddy, sloppy waste of slush, made almost watery by the passage of the troops with their artillery from the boats.

Col. (now Judge) Devens of the Fifth Massachusetts, well remembers, I doubt not, the dress parade of the night preceding in sharp contrast with the unhappy parade of the succeeding night, the flower of his command gone, flags battered, disheartenment, trouble plainly written in lines full of meaning on every face.

"Lie down, Baker, for heaven's sake lie down! Why expose yourself needlessly?" called out one of Baker's nearest friends.

Drawing himself to his full height, Baker replied:

"When you are a United States senator you will understand why I don't lie down."

For all that his bravery was not war—his courage amounted to nothing. A swift-winged messenger from a rebel rifle pierced his heart and he fell upon the field covered with glory, to be sure; loved by his men, doubtless, but of no earthly use to one or the other, for in the brief space of an hour or so thereafter his spirit fled and naught was left but his "remains."

I wonder if the truth will ever be told about that fight.

Poor Stone was hauled over the coals, McCallan going so far even as to write in October, immediately after the defeat:

"My dispatch did not contemplate the making of an attack upon the enemy of a crossing of the river in force by any portion of Gen. Stone's command." Whereas Asst. Adjt.-Gen. A. V. Colburn sent to Gen. Stone in Poolesville an order, part of which says: "Gen. McClellan desires 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."

Well, now, as it was, Stone's force sent across with Baker and Devens amounted to but seventeen hundred men, and it was impossible to keep a lookout upon Leesburg from this side of the river. Another force was known to be moving up from Washington, and Stone very naturally supposed that he was to set in concert with that other force, which but a day before had occupied Draysville under Gen. McClellan. So he went on and his troops were demolished, a terrible trap having been entered.

Baker was one of those large men who attract universal attention. His appearance commanding was an inspiration. To whatever audience he appeared, whether it was on the open slopes of California, in the sacred precinct of the supreme court, in the national senate or on the field of battle his personality produced always its effect. Had he lain down he would have shared the chances of his troops to recross the Potomac, when his services might have been continued for the benefit of his fellow-countrymen, but he didn't. He preferred to be where the bullets were thickest and that ended him—Joseph Howard, jr., in Philadelphia Press.

BEN BUTLER AN OUTLAW.

Reward of \$10,000 Once Offered for Him, Alive or Dead.

Ben Butler was once proclaimed an outlaw and a felon, and a reward of ten thousand dollars was offered for him, dead or alive. The man who proclaimed him is long since dead, but Butler is still alive, and is even now busy in writing his account of the circumstance.

Jefferson Davis was the man who issued the proclamation, and he made it public in the latter part of 1862. He did it because Butler, while commanding-general in the captured city of New Orleans, had hanged a citizen named Mumford. When Farragut, commanding the union fleet, took the city, he caused the United States flag to be hoisted on one of the public buildings. Mumford, with several companies, made his way to the top of the building, two or three days later, hauled down the flag, dragged it through the streets, pelting it with mud and then tore it into fragments. He saved a little piece of it, and wore it in his button-hole in derision.

Butler arrived before the city the next day, and in the morning papers read a full account of Mumford's deed. He says in his forthcoming book: "I turned to one of my staff officers and said: 'When I catch that fellow I will hang him' and in such matters I always keep my word."

Five days later he was in the parlor of the St. Charles hotel, conferring with the civil authorities of the city. The hotel was surrounded by an excited and howling mob of citizens. In a pause in the conference Gen. Butler noticed in the street a tall, black-bearded man of forty-two, wearing in his button-hole a tattered strip of the stars and stripes. He instantly felt that it was Mumford, and called upon a staff officer to notice him, so that he would know him later. Some few days afterward Mumford was caught and tried by a military commission, and found guilty. Butler ordered that he be executed, and on a gallows built in front of the building from whose flagstaff he had torn down the flag.

Not a citizen of New Orleans believed that the general dared to hang this man. "If he is hanged, his companions would assassinate Butler," was the opinion of everybody. Mumford was a gambler and a very popular man among his associates. They held a meeting and resolved not to petition for clemency for Mumford. The days went by, and the gallows was built. The night before the day set for the execution, Mumford's wife and children came to the general and begged for his life. Butler told them it could not be, and that he wished her to go to the prison and tell Mumford that there was no hope for his reprieve. She did; but the man even then refused to believe it. "He will not dare," said the condemned man. He did not know Benjamin F. Butler.

The day of execution dawned. Venerable citizens of New Orleans came before the commanding general, beseeching that the man's life be spared. He answered all alike. Were he to reprieve this man, even if he deserved it, the turbulent mob would think he did it because he was afraid of them, and that nobody's life or property would be safe.

Mumford was brought to the gallows. The street was packed with his followers, shouting, drinking whisky and flourishing weapons. Mumford made an address, extolling his own bravery and patriotism. At the same time he kept glancing up the street toward Gen. Butler's office, anxiously looking for the reprieve which he and the crowd expected would soon come.

But it did not come. The noose was adjusted, the drop fell, and Mumford was hanged before their eyes. A hush fell upon the noisy crowd. They scattered, they even ran from the square. Alone in his office up the street sat a grim-visaged man with a hide like a rhinoceros, and a backbone like a crowbar. He had begun to tame New Orleans—Gen. Butler's Autobiography.

ODD NOTES FOR SOLDIERS.

WHILE the health of some men has been improved by their military service during the war, even to the preservation of lives that would have been lost had the owners remained exclusively in civil life, the health of the average veteran has been deteriorated by his service; and that he suffers more from illness and has a somewhat less expectation of life than other men of his age. This conclusion, based as it is upon an examination of the census data for a small part of the country, is a provisional one only, and we must wait for more complete compilation to give definite and reliable figures.—Forum.

WHEN Gen. Grant was entertained in Chicago at a public dinner just after the close of the war, he made the prediction that the city would one day become the metropolis of the new world; whereupon a Chicago land-owner who was present said: "General, I have sixty acres of land on the west side, which I am tired of owning. If you will take it I will make you a present of one-third of it." Gen. Grant laughingly accepted the offer, and several years later, when he again visited the city, the land was transferred to him for a nominal consideration. The property remained in his possession undisturbed until the time of the Grant-Ward failure, when, in May 18, 1884, a mortgage for one hundred and fifty thousand dollars was recorded against it for W. H. Vanderbilt.—Harper's Weekly.

FARM AND GARDEN.

FARM CONVENIENCES.

Small Things Whose Introduction Would Save Much Labor.

Inside fastenings of double doors. Fig. 1 is inside view of doors. A takes the place of a heavy post. It is an inch board 3 inches wide and long enough to reach from 2 inches above the top of door to within 4 feet of ground. B is a slot, and should be half an inch wider than the "slide." C is a board 6x4 inches and same thickness as the door brace. Drive a tenpenny wire nail into center of board C, leaving an 1 1/4 inch projection. Saw a slot 2 inches long

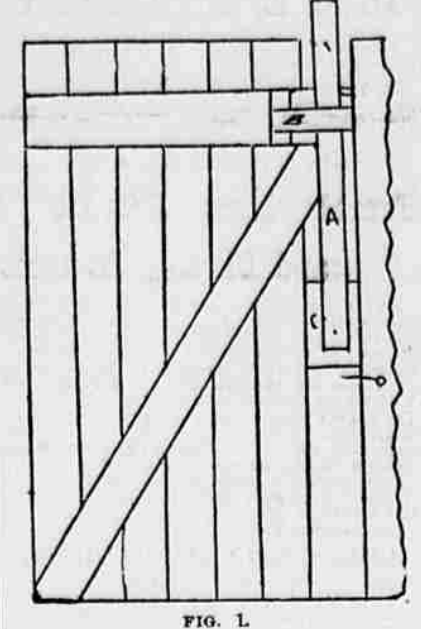


FIG. 1.

and slanting upward in the slide opposite the tenpenny nail, large enough to admit nail easily. When the nail is in the slot you "have it." The upper end of slide goes into the mortise, same as a common post. A short nail should be driven into the slide 2 inches above the large slot B, leaving sufficient projection to catch on the slide when the door is unfastened.

Fig. 2 is a device for preventing end of evener catching on or getting un-

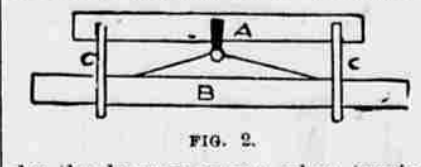


FIG. 2.

der the harrow evener when turning about. A is the evener; B, harrow evener; C C are iron or steel strips 8 inches long, an inch wide and about one-quarter of an inch thick. They are fastened to the evener by small bolts, as shown in illustration. From the evener they are curved upward so that the opposite ends are a little above the upper surface of evener, not chafing the harrow evener when team is straight ahead.

Fig. 3 shows a handy contrivance for holding a gate open. The illustration shows the gate fastened open. A is a

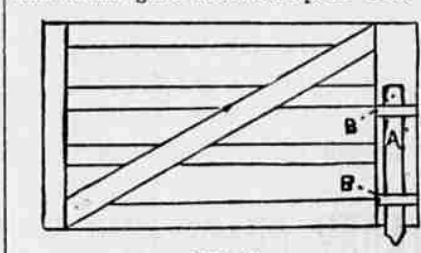


FIG. 3.

3-inch board 3 feet long, held in position by slots B B, in which it fits loosely. A small hole is made in the ground into which the point of A drops, holding the gate securely open. To hold the slide up when the gate is shut drive a wire nail part way into the gate by the side of slide; saw a slot in slide a few inches below the nail, the distance depending on nearness of gate to the ground. A half-inch peg may be put in slide near the top for a handle.—Ohio Farmer.

POULTRY PICKINGS.

If you have choice poultry give them good treatment. The egg can be increased in size and richness by feeding. When breeding fowls for profit, breed what the market demands. So far as is practicable, ducks should have separate quarters from the other fowls.

When poultry get no attention they soon get so that they are not worth looking after.

When the weather is cold the water should be emptied out of the drinking vessels every night.

Common earthen crocks make good drinking vessels if care is taken not to allow them to freeze.

Even when the incubator is used it will be found a safe plan to keep some of the old hens for hatching.

In winter hens must have materials supplied to them to make egg shells, as well as material to fill them.

When the hens appear droopy it is a good indication that they are suffering from lice, indigestion or colds.

Ducks will begin laying when about six months old, but, as a rule, the eggs should not be used for hatching.

If eggs are to be bought for hatching this spring send in the order early so as to be sure of getting them when you want them.

Keep the chickens and the broods growing rapidly by supplying them with a good variety of food and feeding regularly.

BECAUSE there is plenty of scraps is no reason why more should be fed than is necessary to keep the fowls in good condition.

So long as the poultry must be confined the greater part of the time, they should be fed regularly three times each day.

Decorative Taste of the Eagle.

In California, where these birds find an inexhaustible supply of food in the land-tortoises of the plains—a curious commentary on the story of a tortoise left fall by an eagle—they are not only common, but exceedingly tame, building their nests near roads and houses. One nest was found in a small live-oak, near a road, only thirty feet from the ground, built of sticks of the poison-oak and sagebrush. An old nest was close by. Another eagle had decorated its nest with a large "soap-root" by way of ornament; and the next year the same bird built close by, and also procured a "soap-root" to place on the side of its nest, which showed some individuality in taste. A third eagle had a fancy for sacks, and after its old nest, which contained a corn-sack, had been blown out by a storm, it built a fresh one close by, and in this was found another and a new sack. The eagles seem to be, at any rate in some parts of California, almost as common as the kite was in England, and to have the same propensity for carrying to their nests any object which strikes them as ornamental or interesting.—Spectator.

Not a Very Valuable Husband.

There is one man, at least, in New York, who has no silly ideas about the inferiority of women. A burglar got into his house the other night. The owner of the house and of a valiant wife did not fire off a pistol nor create a disturbance to awaken his neighbors. He aroused his wife and told her that there was a man in the house. She jumped out of bed and captured the burglar, holding him fast. It was at this point that the husband showed his absolute faith in the superiority of women, for saying: "You hold him, Fredericka, while I go out and get a policeman," he hurried down stairs and ran up the street. When he returned with a policeman, his wife was still holding the robber a prisoner. This shows that the husband's confidence in his wife was not misplaced. He ought to value her highly, for most men will surely believe that Mrs. Fredericka is worth ten such husbands as hers is.—N. Y. Tribune.

Mutiny.

Very refractory and mutinous are some stomachs. Discipline and good order may be perfectly restored with Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, most reliable and thorough of tonics. Shun local bitters and unmedicated stimulants. A helpful appetizer and fortifier of the nerves is the Bitters, highly efficacious too in malaria, in grippe, constipation, liver and kidney complaints. It counteracts rheumatism. A wineglassful at bedtime promotes sleep.

It doesn't follow that because a man is a master of dead languages he has a killing style of speech.—Boston Post.

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A nice new umbrella is used up when it is used at all.—Philadelphia Press.

Lane's Family Medicine Moves.

The bowels each day. A pleasant herb drink.

Many people who never saw a fire escape have seen one break out.

THE MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 27.	
FLOUR—No. 2 Red Winter	1 02 1/2 @ 1 06 1/2
WHEAT—No. 1 Northern	1 04 1/2 @ 1 06 1/2
CORN—No. 2	54 @ 56
OATS—Mixed Western	34 @ 36
POPK—Mess	9 50 @ 10 75
LARD—Prime Western	6 67 @ 6 70
BUTTER—Western	18 @ 20
CHEESE—Western	5 1/2 @ 5 10
EGGS—Western	23 @ 24
CATTLE	3 50 @ 3 60
SHEEP	3 50 @ 3 60
HOGS	4 10 @ 4 30
CLEVELAND.	
FLOUR—Country XX White	4 70 @ 5 70
WHEAT—No. 2	5 25 @ 5 50
CORN—No. 2	44 @ 45
OATS—No. 2	34 @ 36
BUTTER—Choice	31 @ 32
CHEESE—York State	12 @ 12 1/2
EGGS—Ohio	11 @ 12
POTATOES	24 @ 25
SEEDS—Timothy	1 30 @ 1 40
HAY—Baled	5 50 @ 5 75
Bulk on market	11 00 @ 14 00
CATTLE	3 60 @ 4 75
HOGS	4 50 @ 4 75
CINCINNATI.	
FLOUR—Family	3 90 @ 3 80
WHEAT—No. 2	92 1/2 @ 93
CORN	42 @ 43 1/2
OATS	31 @ 32
EGGS—Common to light	27 1/2 @ 28
POPK—Common to light	3 75 @ 3 80
Packing and butchers	4 25 @ 4 30
POLEDO.	
WHEAT—No. 2 Red winter	92 @ 92 1/2
CORN—No. 2	39 1/2 @ 40
OATS	31 1/2 @ 32 1/2
BUFFALO.	
BEEVES—Best	4 80 @ 4 90
Good to choice	4 40 @ 4 75
SHEEP—Best	6 15 @ 6 50
Fair to good	4 25 @ 4 75
HOGS—Heavy grades	4 85 @ 4 90
Yorkers	4 75 @ 4 80
PITTSBURGH.	
BEEVES—Best	4 70 @ 5 15
Common to fair	3 40 @ 3 85
SHEEP—Best	5 25 @ 5 50
Fair to good	4 25 @ 4 75
HOGS—Philadelphia	4 50 @ 4 70
Yorkers	4 50 @ 4 70
PHILADELPHIA.	
WOOL—Western	26 @ 28
Unwashed	25 @ 28



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