(Note for picture of Col.E.D.Baker) Col. Edward D. Baker.

From a photograph furnished by Mr. Joseph Wallace, Springfield, Ill., author of "The Life of Edward D. Baker."

~~Col.E.D.Baker.~~ Edward Dickinson

~~Col.E.D.~~ Baker was an Englishman by birth--born in London Feb.24, 1811. In his infancy his parents emigrated to America. While a boy he was bound to a cabinet-maker at Philadelphia; but disliking the trade, he ran away, and ~~boy he~~ drifted to Carrollton, Ill., and there he read law and was admitted to the bar. So indifferent was his early success that, having become a ~~most~~ zealous Church member, and having discovered that he possessed a remarkable power of persuasion, ~~in a remarkable degree~~, he thought seriously of entering the ministry; but political success about this time changed the course of his life and, ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ no doubt, robbed the pulpit of a splendid ornament. He removed to Springfield in 1835, and in 1837 was elected a Whig member of the legislature to succeed Dan Stone, ~~who had~~ resigned. He achieved immediate distinction as an orator, and for the ensuing fifteen years he ranked among the foremost lawyers and politicians of the state. He was reelected to the House in 1838, and from 1840 to 1844 he was a member of the State Senate. In the latter year he was elected to Congress and served until the breaking out of the Mexican war, when he returned home and raised a regiment, of which he was commissioned Colonel. Upon his return from the war, he removed to Galena, and was there reelected to Congress. In 1852 he ~~removed~~ went to San Francisco, Cal. Later he became a resident of Oregon, and ~~was~~ that State made him a United States Senator. ~~He~~ At the ~~breaking out~~ commencement of the civil war, he raised a regiment of California soldiers, immediately went to the front, and was killed at the Battle of Ball's Bluff, Oct.20, 1861.

Digital Image, 2011, The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library.

2--Baker.

Edward D.Baker is best remembered as an orator. He ranked, indeed, ~~His striking face and figure, his voice of rare strength and melody, his classic diction, his gorgeous imagery, his wit, his pathos, his wondrous magnetism, placed him among~~ the greatest of the Western orators of his day. His oratory was totally unlike that of Lincoln; it was of the picturesque, impassioned, impetuous kind, with little of the logic of Lincoln. Both personally and politically the two men were warm friends.--J.McCan Davis.

Digital Image, 2011. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library.