

(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~~
~~he~~ drifted to Carrollton, Ill., and there he read law and was ad-
mitted 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} the 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, ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~
no doubt, robbed the pulpit of a splendid ornament. He removed to
Springfield in 1835, and in 1837 was elected ^{Whig} a 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 commencement} At the ~~breaking-out~~ 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. 30, 1861.

