

3-13-1888

Letter: Lafayette McLaws to Isaac R. Pennypacker, March 13, 1888

Lafayette McLaws

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Recommended Citation

McLaws, Lafayette, "Letter: Lafayette McLaws to Isaac R. Pennypacker, March 13, 1888" (1888). *The Lafayette McLaws Papers*. Book 5. <http://digitalcommons.wofford.edu/littlejohnmclaws/5>

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Substance
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more
#67

Savannah, Ga., March 13 1885
155 Liberty

Dear Mr. Pennyfather
Please weekly press
Dear Sir

I beg leave to acknowledge
the receipt of a number of copies of the press
in which was published the first part of - a
part of my article, reviewing, as much of Genl
Lump's memoirs of Genl Lee, as refers to Camp Stuart
Camp at Gettysburg. - If the remainder of the article
has been published, copies of the paper containing
it have not been received.

I would now have had the article, promised
about Harper, Ferry, Franklin &c. ready for Jan
but happening to come across, a number of the
volume "War of the Rebellion" published by act of
Congress & containing the reports of the several Federal
Commanders engaged in the Maryland Campaign
1862. I found as much, which to me, was need
Matter, all substantiating my statements; that
I took in a measure, reworked my article
and will rewrite it, quoting largely from Federal
Sources

It will have to be borne in mind that, my statistics
of Forces engaged, & losses - are taken from returns
made by the several Commanders, to myself, or
by me to my superiors - and that these returns were
never made under the belief that they would
be captured - that if they were wrong at the time

They would have been there and then, Corcoran
- but since those returns, were rendered to Genl
Lee they have never been seen by those who
made them - and therefore never could have
been doctored to meet the views or prejudices
of any body, - and therefore must be taken as
Correct & true.

In instance My Orders, rendered as true stated
- show that I attacked Maryland Heights, with
Artillery and with not over 1600 men, - in
two Brigades - and that My force at Camp
Gap was for three hours, not over 600 men
- reinforced, - when too late, by Cobbs Brigade
numbering about 1200 - The force I should have
been taken in an hour & was not, until dark
after four or five or six hours fighting.

The flags (White) were not raised in Harper's Ferry
until after 10 Am.

My Corps did not leave their ground in front
of Franklin until late in evening of the 15. - all
this can be proved.

Very respectfully
Yours obt. Servt
L. M. Loring