pressed with the weight of disaster, and translate them in clear, courteous, orderly phrase on the instant for transmission to subordinate commanders; and, withal, he must, in time of need, ride the field and penetrate the battle like the youngest aid-de-camp. All these things the volunteer of twenty-two did as if he had been trained to the duties all his life.

"To serve as he did, in this intimate relation with Generals Couch, Warren, and Hancock, soldiers schooled in the severe traditions of the regular army, who maintained the loftiest view of the dignity and methods of their profession, was not an easy duty, but Colonel Walker not only did this through all the arduous campaigns of '62, '63, and '64, excepting a few months when he was detained from the field by wounds or in the enemy's prisons, but he also won high and repeated commendation from these commanders, both for his work in the bureau and for his valor on the field of battle. He had entered the war with a New England character and training which led him to devote himself to his duty with the utmost conscientiousness, whether at the desk or in the saddle, and he gave to it a scrupulous attention to detail, an observance to formalities, and an unremitting labor which excluded relaxation. Of kind heart, with winning smile and unfailing politeness, he displayed the best qualities of Roundhead and Cavalier together.

"The intellectual powers which afterwards made him famous in another career, guided by the motives indicated in the conduct which has been outlined, overcame all the want of military education and all the disadvantages of youth, and he began to win high commendation with his first campaign. His name received honorable mention in the reports of many battles, while at Chancellorsville he was wounded, and at Fair Oaks General Couch reported that he 'made a daring personal reconnoissance and had his horse shot under him.'"