

the rooting party out of the woods, and the whole fell into the hands of the enemy.

In the meantime Colonel Stewart had pushed forward a detachment of Infantry to a mile distant from the Eutaws, with orders to engage the American troops, while he formed up his men and prepared for battle. But Greene persuaded by the audacity of Coffin that the enemy was at hand, and wishing to have time for his raw troops to form with coolness, halted his columns.

At about 200 yards west of the Eutaw Springs, Stewart had drawn up his troops in one line; the Eutaw Creek effectually covered his right, and his left, which was in military language "in air," was supported by Coffin's Cavalry, and a respectable detachment of Infantry held in reserve, at a convenient distance in the rear of the left under cover of the wood. The ground on which the British Army was drawn up was altogether in wood, but at a small distance in the rear of this line was a cleared field, extending west, south, and east from the dwelling house, and bounded by the creek formed by the Eutaw Springs, on the shores of which is a high bank, thickly covered with low wood.