

and again did Coffin return to the charge, and was foiled as before. At length the British Infantry joined in the pursuit; Smith's men fell fast, he was himself badly wounded; Coffin succeeded in forcing them, and every man was either killed or taken. At this crisis Washington charged the British and they fled. As soon as General Greene found his Artillery, ammunition, wagons, &c., safe, he issued orders to continue the retreat. Coffin with his Cavalry and some Infantry were left on the field. On seeing this, Colonel Washington retiring with his Cavalry into a thicket, sent forward a few of his men who came within a short distance of the enemy. Captain Coffin's horse, with the Infantry, immediately pursued them as far as the wood. Washington emerged from his hiding place, cut to pieces and dispersed the whole party. The Americans thus remained masters of the field.

The memorable battle of Eutaw Springs was fought on the 8th of September, 1781.

The day was intensely hot; at four o'clock in the morning, the American Army moved from its bivouac. Their Cavalry amounted to about 200 men; the British had not above half the number, but they were commanded by an able officer, Captain Coffin.