

his men for a moment leaving their much-exposed position. While the bow of the *Queen* was yet resting against the side of the *Indianola*, his guns were still manned and fired, though he and his men were completely exposed. Aside from the courage thus shown, his skill and judgment in manoeuvring his piece in so contracted a space is certainly deserving of the highest commendation.

The officers and crew of the *Indianola* were made prisoners, and the vessel formed a valuable addition to the small Confederate fleet on the Mississippi. Her subsequent career, however, was a brief one, as she was fired and abandoned by a Lieutenant of infantry, who, with a small detachment, was in charge of her. The enemy above Vicksburg had devised an imitation iron-clad (made of a coal barge, with pine logs for guns, and turned it adrift. ) As it floated down near the *Indianola*, the Lieutenant in charge became alarmed at the approach of so formidable a craft and decamped, after setting fire to his vessel.

Admiral Porter was much chagrined at the capture of this fine vessel, of which so much had been expected, and thus announced his loss :

UNITED STATES MISSISSIPPI SQUADRON, February 27, 1863.

*To Secretary Gideon Welles :*

Sir :—I regret to inform you that the *Indianola* has also fallen into the hands of the enemy. The rams *Webb* and *Queen of the West* attacked her twenty-five miles from here and rammed her until she surrendered, etc.

DAVID D. PORTER.

Lieutenant Patten, on March 1, was ordered to Red River to take command of the section of the Third Maryland aboard the *Queen of the West*. He found her at Shreveport, Louisiana.

Early on the morning of the 14th of April Captain E. A. Fuller, now in command of the *Queen*, with the *Lizzie Simmons* as a supply boat, attacked the enemy's fleet on Grand Lake, Louisiana, consisting of the *Calhoun*, *Estrella* and *Arizona*, but before the vessels came within short range, an incendiary percussion shell from the *Calhoun* penetrated the deck of the *Queen*, exploded and set the vessel on fire. About twenty minutes afterward the fire reached the magazine, and the career of this celebrated boat was closed. After discovering the boat to be on fire, Lieutenant Patten rolled a cotton bale off the side of the vessel and jumped upon it, but it turned with him and he sank, not being able to swim. Thus perished one of the noblest and bravest of the Marylanders who went South. He was a man of commanding physique, polished manners and rare attainments, a soldier who reflected credit upon the cause he espoused ; and in his death the