

## Lt Carey An alternative opinion?

Based on research by member Bill Rodham.

---

The following remarks are from *L'Italie*:-

As usual a scapegoat is wanted, and Lieutenant Carey is to serve the turn. But let it be noted –

- 1, That Lieutenant Carey did not invite the Prince to come and wage war in Zululand:
- 2, that not he but the Prince commanded the expedition:
- 3, that, consequently, it was the prince who foolishly pushed forward into the enemy's country; that he gave the order to ungirth the horses; that he neglected to place an advanced sentinel; that he also gave the order to mount and return to camp. It therefore follows that the Prince alone can be held responsible for the surprise, and it is not Lieutenant Carey's fault if the commander of the escort did not know his trade. As regards the accusation of having omitted to render assistance to the Prince, it will be easy for Lieutenant Carey to clear himself by observing that people sent out to reconnoitre have no mission to fight. Their duty is, when having ascertained the presence of the enemy, at once to inform their chief, in order that he should not be taken unawares. If, instead of conforming to this rule, the lieutenant and his men had engaged in an action with the Zulus, they might have all been killed or made prisoners, and the enemy, perhaps a numerous body, might then have made for the English camp and surprised it. Lieutenant Carey, therefore, by rushing towards the camp in order to give the alarm, acted in the interest of the larger number, as is the rule and order at war. Nobody would have thought of incriminating him if the officer killed had not been Prince Louis. We do not hesitate to maintain that the true victim in this affair is Lieutenant Carey, now exposed to injurious accusations, because it pleased his superiors to admit into the army an amateur, and place him, a professional man, under that amateur's orders, so exposing him and his men to be sacrificed without any advantage to the army or the country.

---