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FORT AND FLEET.

The First Test of the Iron-Clads-Bombardment of Fort McAllister-

with a secret hope that they would jarred in every perve. be sent to the bottom.

It is more reasonable to believe that this test was made with a view to finding out what they would be able to accomplish when brought to face the sea-wall of Fort Sumter. It was a test which proved

Fort McAllister was the gate within two or three miles of Ossa-baw Sound, the country being swampy and the river lined for a part of the way with a thick growth part of the metal harled at it during

Fort Wagner, at Charleston, was built of sand becase no other materiel was convenient. Fort McAllister was designed as a sand fort, little else was used in its construetion. Its walls of sand were in some places thirty feet thick, and its bomb-proofs were unusually safe; but at the time of the Federal at tack in March, 1863, its armament included none of the new and powerful cannon used on Federal gun-boats. Long before any attack was boats. Long before any attack was is large and deep enough to-day to erally believed that Fort McAllis-form a graye for a yoke of oxen. knock the fort to pieces in one

obstructions in the river, determined to batter down the fort itself. The fleet assembled con-nated of the Passuic, Patapson, Montauk, Nahant and three mortar-

On the Confederate side the only made after it was seen that an attack was to be made

IT IE was the first Tuesday in March. Men who have served on both

A NARROW CHANNEL

which the iron-clads now advanced was so narrow that they had to move up in single file.

shot fired by the Passaic fell short and exploded in the marsh and threw up a shower of mid and

A GRAND FIGHT, W and opened fire, and all the guns in fort which could be brought to bear returned the compliment. To this crash and roar, was added the confederates were doing some fine the present day in the embrasures of a sand fort so situated that five

and almost every shot seeming to landing infantry to attack the fort fifths of the sand upheaved will tell. The fort was a target too big was sharply canvassed, but finally full back into the hole, and enough to be missed when the range was abandoned. Had such a movement more run in from the sides to level once obtained, but there was a been carried out it would have reserious offset. As the ports of an sulted in a terrible slaughter to the them through and through; and while the result temporarily disappointed the friends of the new style of fighting craft, they had strong grounds for future hopes.

Serious offset. As the ports of an iron-chad are its vital spots, so are the embrasures of a fort—especially a sand fort. The guns in Fort McAllister were so mounted that they were in sight only when being they were in sight only when being they were in sight only when being the last shots fired before piping to the last sh fired, the same as the guns on the dinner struck a columbiad in the vessels, and the iron-clads thus fort and dismounted and rendered which guarded Savannah. It was found themselves compelled to peg it useless. built on a desolute site on the river away at the thick banks of sand. During THE BIG SHELLS.

of the power of the big shells from thrown away in a tremendous canthe iron-clads. A fifteen-inch shell nonsde, for not a man had been of forest. The long years have set the iron-clads. A intermed shell the sandy parapets and wrought the iron-clads. A intermed shell the iron-clads. destruction to planks and the visitor They are eight or ten inches in destruction to planks and the visitor will find much to surprise him. I diamiter, and from seventeen to believe that one might to day dig twenty inches long. One of these mousters, hurled by a charge of thirty-five or forty pounds of powthere or four tons of shot and shell, three or four tons of shot and shell, and the fiftieth der from a distance of 1,200 yards, and the news went round that the fort was being knocked to pieces. This, however, turned out to be false news. The

knock the fort to pieces in one side the fort were of wood. I saw doned during the night or its de-hour's work but he merely heaped in Savannah a piece of pine board struction could be accomplished in on more sand. In thickness of embrasures no other Confederate fort half an inch thick which was sawed brasures from making brasures no other Confederate fort ever matched it, and though Sherman finally captured the works, it was after the Confederacy had been cut in two, Confederate armies scattered, and every soldier knew that the end was at hand.

Du Pont had bearned that he could not pass the fort on account of the obstructions in the river, and he determined to patter down the fort.

The Mortar shells.

half an inch thick which was sawed off and taken away after the fight as a relic. The board is loaded with sand and gravel, driven into it by those explosions. Several small stones were driven clear through it, and hundreds of others so firmly inbedded that they can scarcely be moved with a stone fight and was worked in reply to those aboard of the schooners. In either case the bombs had to be

itself. The fleet assembled conmixed of the Passic, Parapsco,
Montank, Nahant and three mortarschooners. Each iron-clad carried
two guns of the heaviest caliber,
and the schooners were armed with
fibriteen-inch mortars.

On the Confederate aide the only
tion made after it was The garrison were in a great sent a chill over a spectator, hung in mid-air for what seemed a long minute and then took the other side one of the schooler and planted down one of the schoo

morning was bright and balmy, iron clads, and mortar schooners both fleet and fort were in assert the deck of the latter is the and both fleet and fort were in ighting condition. The iron-clads worst place in war during an engagement. The discharge of the mortar schooners were towed an about a mile below the fort. Here below of the mortar is not only postively painful to the case, but has been known to preduce tooth ache and repetitor to drop their mouster shells his within the works.

There was almost perfect silence on the Ogeeche as the iron-clads moved up to finish the fort, but le la great change had taken place in the few hours. Notwitted the mortar is not only postively painful to the case, but has been known to preduce tooth ache and violent cramps. Men on the deck of a mortar schooner who do not stand on tip-toe and with teeth apart, will be disabled in an hour.

It was the mortar shells which

arters within the ort on fire out such an event had the first real test of the iron-clads. They had come within good range, and were quietly detailed to remove were provided with much heavier

had shown the Confederates that the fort had a most singular escape. In the fact that the fort had a most singular escape. He had mounted the parapet to examine and report the damage of the river. The stream had, therefore, been obstructed by logs fell within six feet of him. He therefore, been obstructed by logs and piles until it was imposible for heard it descending, but dare not a vessel to advance nearer than move. Shutting his eyes and clan ports and plenty of witnesses. Durching his teeth he waited for what 1,200 yards, while the channel up ching his teeth he waited for what ing all that fight only three men seemed to him two minutes, and ing all that fight only three men then heard the thud of the missle. were wounded and neither of them The next thing he knew more than disabled, and not a single soldier The Passic was in the lead, and a quarter of an hour had passed was killed. Two guns were temas she came within range of the away. As the shell exploded the poriarily disabled, and the rough

After the first half hour of the

nent.

a GRAND FIGHT.

upon the spot where the target had been placed for practice firing.
The iron-clads now took position Between 9 and 12 o'clock she was est iron-clad in the fleet limp out

During the temporary truce both sides made ready for another grap-One can see to day the evidences ple. Thus far four hours had been killed on either side.

THE RENEWAL

would penetrate a distance of ten iron clads had now tried themfeet into a solid bank of sand and selves and knew what they could do, then explode, and the explosion andhalf-past 2 they renewed the New and Fast Sailing Steamer would lift tons of sand high in air, night with such energy that the artilwould lift tons of sand high in air. Sometimes the greater amount would fall backwards into the hole, thus nearely refilling it, and at others it would be dashed clear, across the fort, knocking men down and almost burying them alive.

There is a spot near the fort where described in soft soil. The hole scooped out must have naturally filled up considerably in the twenty years that have passed, and yet it is large and deep enough to-day to

The quaters of the garrison in- pieces that it would either be aban-

but this was manned early in the given their cheerful support. fight and was worked in reply to For further information en those aboard of the schooners. In either case the bombs had to be thrown over a belt of woods which completely hid the schooners from Orany of its Agents at the following places: the fort and the Federals had a great ABE LEE, Adams Creek. advantage not only in number of mortars, but the fort was a great target and the range was reported by lookouts until it was exact.

The bombs from the Confederate agen that an attack was to be made minute and then took the other side of the garrison and some addition to the attack of ammunition. Savanah was thoroughly excited, but such was the confidence in the fort that no alarm was felt.

THE ATTACK.

In mid-air for what minute and then took the other side of the curve and plumed down into the fort with a jar plainly heard half a mile away. Then followed the explosion, spreading terror and working destruction all over the works.

THE ATTACK.

Men who have served on both Men who have served on both minute and then took the other side of the senoments of the senoments at the bottom of the river and sent up such showers of water as to nearly hide the craft from view for a moment. Others fell in the forest along the banks and tore great trees to pieces, but not one of them injured a Federal.

IN THE MORING.

erty and the rest contined the ordnance and greatly assisted by mortars, but yet they had accom-plished nothing. Guns and mor-tars had together ared nearly 300 shells of great size, and yet this sixty tons of metal might as well Our Motto and our Success! have been thrown overboard into the river.

fort a hot fire was opened on her. The very first shot fired by the Confederates struck the turret of the Passaic with a thud which made the whole craft tremble. The first shot fired by the Passaic foll shot at the passaic follows. half the garrison was wiped out, but not even one life was lost.

fight the Confederates directed the fire of six cannon at the Passaic, she being 200 yards nearer than wrote one Northern correspondent, water which would have hidden a she being 200 yards nearer than wrote one Northern correspondent, mountian from sight for a more either one of the others and almost and yet within a month he was to est iron-clad in the fleet limp out

A Sand Fort Stronger Than an Iron Ship.

(Detroit Free Press.)

Admiral Dn Pont either did not believe in the monitors, or he had too much faith. It has been repeatedly charged that he was in a huff when they were sent down to him in the winter of 1862-3, and that he pitted them against Fort McAllister with a secret hope that they would make a river part of the secret hope that they would need to fine the secret hope that they would need to fine at longer intervals and only at the port-holes of a sand fort so situated that five shooting, their ordinance was so light that the solid shot scarcely left and entry in the embrasures of a sand fort so situated that five shooting, their ordinance was so light that the solid shot scarcely left and entry in the embrasures of a sand fort so situated that five or six guns can be trained upon one light that the solid shot scarcely left and entry in the process of a sand fort so situated that five or six guns can be trained upon one light that the solid shot scarcely left and entry in the present day in the embrasures of a sand fort so situated that five or six guns can be trained upon one light that the solid shot scarcely left and entry in the fort or dinance was so light that the solid shot scarcely left and entry in the present day in the embrasures of a sand fort so situated that five or six guns can be trained upon one light that the solid shot scarcely left and entry in the fort or dinance was so light that the solid shot scarcely left and entry in the first or dinance was so light that the solid shot scarcely left and entry in the first or dinance was so light that the solid shot scarcely left and entry in the fort so situated that five or six guns can be trained upon one light that the solid shot scarcely left and entry in the first or dinance was so light that the solid shot scarcely left and entry in the first or dinance was so light that the solid shot scarcely left and entry in the first or dinance was so light that the solid shot scarcely left and entry in the For apwards of three hours the fight continued at white heat, every gun being steadily worked and almost every shot, seeming to M. QUAD.

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