

*Six Miles from Charleston,  
Five Minutes to Hell:*

**THE BATTLE OF SECESSIONVILLE,  
JUNE 16, 1862**

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EMERGING CIVIL WAR SERIES



## Citations and Bibliography

### Prologue

... the name change is "shrouded in legend."<sup>1</sup>

The state legislature passed the "Defense Act of 1850"....<sup>2</sup>

"History ... cannot be changed but to some extent, it can be reconstructed."<sup>3</sup>

### Chapter One: Charleston's Back Door

... "deemed by the rebels, and rightly too, as a place requiring much attention."<sup>4</sup>

General George McClellan expressed this sentiment ...<sup>5</sup>

... "a jigsaw puzzle of real estate."<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Patrick Brennan, *Secessionville: Assault on Charleston*, (New York, 1996), 32.

<sup>2</sup> Ashley Halsey, Jr., "South Carolina Began Preparing for War in 1851," *Civil War Times Illustrated*, October 1963, 9.

<sup>3</sup> E. Milby Burton, *The Siege of Charleston, 1861-1865*, 336.

<sup>4</sup> *New York Times*, June 17, 1862, p. 1

<sup>5</sup> Official Records of the War of the Rebellion (ORA), Volume 5, p. 39

<sup>6</sup> Walter Brian Cisco. *States Right Gist: A South Carolina General in the Civil War*, (Ragged Edge Press, 1991), p. 75

It consisted of 14 vessels of war. . . .<sup>7</sup>  
... "chivalrous, genial, unassuming, and heroic."<sup>8</sup>  
It was, to be charitable, ineffective. . . .<sup>9</sup>  
... "as men-of-war they were in every respect of the most vulnerable class."<sup>10</sup>  
Tattnall himself once described his fleet. . . .<sup>11</sup>  
With the departure of the Union fleet from Hampton Roads. . . .<sup>12</sup>  
The Federals had successfully established a beach head. . . .<sup>13</sup>  
"I am in favor of abandoning all exposed points. . . ."<sup>14</sup>  
... "another forlorn hope expedition."<sup>15</sup>  
McClellan simply did not see much of the communication. . . .<sup>16</sup>  
The whole tone of this communication bordered on desperation.<sup>17</sup>  
... "relieves me much for I know where he is that all will be done that is right."<sup>18</sup>  
... "let the Army take the benefit and the glory of it."<sup>19</sup>  
... "a great panic among the land forces of South Carolina."<sup>20</sup>  
Inter-service and inter-personal rivalries. . . .<sup>21</sup>  
McClellan's interest focused. . . ."<sup>22</sup>

## Chapter Two: The Great Escape

... "smart, capable, and well-liked by the McKee family."<sup>23</sup>  
... "to have somebody to do for me and to keep me."<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> James Spirek, Christopher Amer, "The Port Royal Sound Survey," p. 45.

<sup>8</sup> Robert M. Browning, Jr. *Success Is All That Was Expected: The South Atlantic Blockading Squadron During the Civil War*, (Lincoln, University of Nebraska Press, 1991), p. 19.

<sup>9</sup> David M. Sullivan. "The Confederate States Marine Corps in South Carolina, 1861-65." *South Carolina Historical Magazine*, vol. 86, no. 2, April 1985, p. 113.

<sup>10</sup> Rear Admiral David Ammen, "Du Pont and the Port Royal Expedition," *Battles and Leaders of the Civil War: From Sumter To Shiloh*, p. 677.

<sup>11</sup> Browning, *op. cit.*, p. 50.

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 28.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 35-40.

<sup>14</sup> ORA 6:394

<sup>15</sup> H. David Stone, Jr. *Vital Rails: The Charleston & Savannah Railroad and the Civil War in Coastal South Carolina*, (Columbia, University of South Carolina Press, 2008), p. 70.

<sup>16</sup> Browning, *op. cit.*, pp. 42, 45-46.

<sup>17</sup> ORA 6:214; Browning, *op. cit.*, p. 66.

<sup>18</sup> John D. Hayes, Lillian O'Brien. "The Battle of Port Royal Ferry, S.C.," *New York Historical Society Quarterly*, Vol. XLVII, No. 2, April 1963, p. 116.

<sup>19</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 118.

<sup>20</sup> William T. Lusk. *War Letters of William Thompson Lusk, Captain, Assistant Adjutant General, United States Volunteers, 1861-1863*, pp. 113-14.

<sup>21</sup> Browning, *op. cit.*, pp. 56-57.

<sup>22</sup> ORA 6:225.

<sup>23</sup> Cate Lineberry. *Be Free or Die: the Amazing Story of Robert Smalls' Escape from Slavery to Union Hero*, 39.

<sup>24</sup> *Ibid.*, 46.

Designed for four guns, the fort may never actually have had that many. . . .<sup>25</sup>  
It soon would be back in Union hands.<sup>26</sup>  
No doubt they felt considerably less satisfaction at seeing him. . . .<sup>27</sup>  
. . . “I find I can make her very useful here as a blockading vessel.”<sup>28</sup>  
For this, he received a formal appointment. . . .<sup>29</sup>

### **Chapter Three: Hunter and Benham Begin to Move**

. . . placed the department under the command of General Hunter.<sup>30</sup>  
The Florida panhandle became the Western District. . . .<sup>31</sup>  
“Pulaski is ours. Sumter is avenged!”<sup>32</sup>  
Bache essentially left him alone to do this.<sup>33</sup>  
He did not endear himself to Stevens. . . .<sup>34</sup>  
. . . “to seize the railroad crossing on Broad River and silence it by works.”<sup>35</sup>  
. . . “make a dash at the railroad.”<sup>36</sup>  
Colonel Benjamin Christ of the 50th Pennsylvania. . . .<sup>37</sup>  
. . . “at least 800.”<sup>38</sup>  
“Hurry on your troops”. . . .<sup>39</sup>  
All-in-all, these men had covered some 33 miles in 27 hours.<sup>40</sup>  
Casualties were light on both sides. . . .<sup>41</sup>  
. . . “the whole line would have been broken up from Salkehatchie to Coosawhatchie.”<sup>42</sup>

### **Chapter Four: The Navy Secures the Stono**

That would leave Parrott once again in temporary command. . . .<sup>43</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> ORA 47/1:1019.

<sup>26</sup> Official Records of the Union and Confederate Navies in the War of the Rebellion (ORN), 12:821

<sup>27</sup> ORA 14:500.

<sup>28</sup> ORN 13:10.

<sup>29</sup> Lineberry, *op.cit.*, p. 153.

<sup>30</sup> ORA 6:248

<sup>31</sup> ORA 6:258

<sup>32</sup> Browning, p. 92.

<sup>33</sup> Kent D. Richards. *Isaac I. Stevens: Young Man in a Hurry*, (Pullman, Washington State University Press, 2016), pp. 77-78.

<sup>34</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 356 and fn 29, p. 418

<sup>35</sup> ORA 6:198

<sup>36</sup> ORA 14:985

<sup>37</sup> ORA 14:20-22

<sup>38</sup> ORA 14: 22-24

<sup>39</sup> ORA 14:525

<sup>40</sup> ORA 14:21

<sup>41</sup> ORA 14: 24, 27

<sup>42</sup> ORA 14:21

<sup>43</sup> ORN 13:5-7

He had to pass “within grape shot distance” . . . .<sup>44</sup>  
He quickly withdrew. . . .<sup>45</sup>  
. . . “the first favorable moment without waiting for me.”<sup>46</sup>  
This was, in fact, the case.<sup>47</sup>  
Commander Marchand described the burning. . . .<sup>48</sup>  
One member of the *Adger’s* crew when Marchand took command. . . .<sup>49</sup>  
. . . “as a gentleman and meritorious person.”<sup>50</sup>  
One historian has referred to him as. . . .<sup>51</sup>  
. . . his “holy-horrored squadron. . . .”<sup>52</sup>  
Marchand inspected these. . . .<sup>53</sup>  
Boutelle ordered two buoys placed. . . .<sup>54</sup>  
“Before sunset” . . . .<sup>55</sup>  
. . . “took to their heels and ran for their lives.”<sup>56</sup>  
Those men actually were the 60 or so. . . .<sup>57</sup>  
Distraught at the capture of the men, Stevens wrote to General Pemberton. . . .<sup>58</sup>  
“The gate is now invitingly open to the army” . . . .<sup>59</sup>  
“Our troops will not fight” . . . .<sup>60</sup>  
And, in fact, looting and a general lack of discipline were evident. . . .<sup>61</sup>

## **Chapter Five: Confederates Dig In**

About 35,000 of those were present and available for duty. . . .<sup>62</sup>  
We can only imagine his consternation. . . .<sup>63</sup>  
He replaced Gregg in command. . . .<sup>64</sup>  
Having done this, he addressed an almost plaintive message. . . .<sup>65</sup>

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<sup>44</sup> Craig L. Symonds (Ed). *Charleston Blockade: The Journals of John B. Marchand, US Navy, 1861-62*, (Newport, Naval War College Press, 1976), p. 165

<sup>45</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 166

<sup>46</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 171

<sup>47</sup> ORN 13: 17-18

<sup>48</sup> Symonds, *op. cit.*, p. 168

<sup>49</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 3

<sup>50</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 133

<sup>51</sup> Browning, *op. cit.*, p. 75

<sup>52</sup> Symonds, *op. cit.*, p. 171

<sup>53</sup> ORN 13:16

<sup>54</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>55</sup> Symonds, *op. cit.*, p. 172

<sup>56</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 171

<sup>57</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 173

<sup>58</sup> ORA 14:18

<sup>59</sup> Symonds, *op. cit.*, pp. 174-76

<sup>60</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 181

<sup>61</sup> Brennan, *op. cit.*, fn 29, p. 321

<sup>62</sup> ORA 6:422

<sup>63</sup> ORA 14:480

<sup>64</sup> ORA 14:481

<sup>65</sup> ORA 14:482

...“with no other protection than what the cavalry companies can afford, which is altogether insufficient.”<sup>66</sup>

Evans was accepted on March 26 and reported to the Academy on July 1.<sup>67</sup>

... “to proceed with the gunboats and feel the battery” near there.<sup>68</sup>

Several companies of troops in the area. . . .<sup>69</sup>

... “absent without leave.”<sup>70</sup>

The move also got Calhoun away from Rhett. . . .<sup>71</sup>

... “get your artillery where you can’t get it off.”<sup>72</sup>

The shells actually missed. . . .<sup>73</sup>

Colonel Johnson Hagood took note of the affair. . . .<sup>74</sup>

... “but also provided access to a water route to the Confederate rear.”<sup>75</sup>

... and thus he deserved “the gratitude of the state.”<sup>76</sup>

... “one or the other must be removed.”<sup>77</sup>

The importance of defending both Charleston and Savannah. . . .<sup>78</sup>

Understandably, he did not want any action they might take. . . .<sup>79</sup>

Brigadier General Evans had just over 1,300 troops in that immediate area.<sup>80</sup>

Displeased, Pemberton responded with a terse note. . . .<sup>81</sup>

## **Chapter Six: Establishing the Beach Head**

The result was chaos.”<sup>82</sup>

Historian Clayton R. Newell neatly summed up the problem. . . .<sup>83</sup>

This may be the reason. . . .<sup>84</sup>

With that in mind. . . .<sup>85</sup>

The record does not indicate whether Cannon ever did this.<sup>86</sup>

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<sup>66</sup> ORA 14:482

<sup>67</sup> Ancestry.com, USMA Registry of Cadet Applications, 1844

<sup>68</sup> ORN 13:28

<sup>69</sup> ORA 6:531

<sup>70</sup> ORA 14:382

<sup>71</sup> ORA 14:515-16

<sup>72</sup> ORA 14:514

<sup>73</sup> Browning, op. cit., p. 100; ORN 13:37

<sup>74</sup> Johnson Hagood. *Memoirs of the War of Secession*, (Columbia, The State Co., 1910), p. 87

<sup>75</sup> Brennan, op. cit., pp. 33-34

<sup>76</sup> Ibid., p. 285

<sup>77</sup> ORA 14:504

<sup>78</sup> ORA 14:523-24

<sup>79</sup> ORA 14:513-14

<sup>80</sup> Jason H. Silverman, et al., *Shanks: The Life and Wars of General Nathan G. Evans, CSA*, (Boston, Da Capo, 2002), p. 95

<sup>81</sup> ORA 14:470-71, 474

<sup>82</sup> Brennan, op. cit., p. 41

<sup>83</sup> Clayton R. Newell. *Lee Vs. McClellan: The First Campaign*, (Washington, Regnery, 1996), p. 251

<sup>84</sup> Ibid., p. 137

<sup>85</sup> ORN 13:12

<sup>86</sup> ORN 13:129-31

... “the attack upon Charleston and the forts in that harbor.”<sup>87</sup>  
Two days later, Commander Marchand submitted a plan of his own to Du Pont.<sup>88</sup>  
Moreover, he felt that the Army’s own quartermaster general’s office...<sup>89</sup>  
He finished by saying...<sup>90</sup>  
...“a remarkable breach of protocol.”<sup>91</sup>  
Writing from the *Wabash* that same day...<sup>92</sup>  
... “Benham is a great humbug.”<sup>93</sup>  
During that short excursion...<sup>94</sup>  
By that afternoon, Stevens’s Yankee soldiers disembarked onto Battery Island.<sup>95</sup>  
Evans received orders to defend his lines...<sup>96</sup>  
Even before noon, the temperature reached 100 degrees...<sup>97</sup>  
They fell out at such a rate...<sup>98</sup>  
Medics issued alcohol and quinine as stimulants...<sup>99</sup>  
The weather and the “indifferently armed” Rebel horsemen both contributed to that.<sup>100</sup>  
This slowed down their movements...<sup>101</sup>  
They finally began arriving at their destination around 8:00 a.m...<sup>102</sup>

## Chapter Seven: The Day of Trial is Upon Us

“... and that the day of trial is upon us.”<sup>103</sup>  
At that point, the total force he had available...<sup>104</sup>  
As one editorialist opined...<sup>105</sup>  
Commodore Du Pont wrote to his wife on June 13...<sup>106</sup>  
He intended to deploy four 42-pounder carronades...<sup>107</sup>  
Carronades, on the other hand...<sup>108</sup>

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<sup>87</sup> ORA 14: 983-86

<sup>88</sup> ORN 13:13-14

<sup>89</sup> ORA 14:344-46

<sup>90</sup> ORN 13:25-26

<sup>91</sup> Brennan, *op. cit.*, p.43

<sup>92</sup> ORN 13:27-28

<sup>93</sup> John D. Hayes (Ed). *Samuel Francis Du Pont: A Selection From His Civil War Letters, Volume 2, The Blockade, 1862-1863*, (Ithaca, Cornell University Press, 1969), p. 113

<sup>94</sup> Symonds, *op. cit.*, pp. 189-90

<sup>95</sup> Browning, *op. cit.*, p. 101

<sup>96</sup> Stone, *op. cit.*, p. 101; ORA 14:534-37

<sup>97</sup> Stone, *op. cit.*, p. 99

<sup>98</sup> D. Eldredge. *The Third New Hampshire And All About It*, (Wentworth Press, 2016), p. 166

<sup>99</sup> Brennan, *op. cit.*, p. 66

<sup>100</sup> ORA 14:551

<sup>101</sup> Symonds, *op. cit.*, p. 200

<sup>102</sup> Brennan, *op. cit.*, p. 67

<sup>103</sup> *Charleston Mercury*, June 5, 1862, p. 1

<sup>104</sup> ORA 14: 529, 567

<sup>105</sup> *New York Tribune*, June 9, 1862, p. 1

<sup>106</sup> Du Pont Letters, p. 113

<sup>107</sup> *Charleston Mercury*, June 9, 1862, p. 2

<sup>108</sup> Warren Ripley. *Artillery and Ammunition of the Civil War*, (Promontory Press, 1973), pp. 367, 375

They still had the three other pieces. . . .<sup>109</sup>  
 Commander Drayton reported. . . .<sup>110</sup>  
 “No casualties occurred except a few scratches. . . .”<sup>111</sup>  
 These, he noted in his journal. . . .<sup>112</sup>  
 . . . “the enemy and a small party of our men lay near each other all night at Legare’s.”<sup>113</sup>  
 They were the first Union troops to land. . . .<sup>114</sup>  
 He claimed that honor. . . .<sup>115</sup>  
 The Federals then withdrew some distance. . . .<sup>116</sup>  
 Commodore Du Pont reported. . . .<sup>117</sup>  
 . . . “a cap clotted with blood and a cavalry sabre lying near it.”<sup>118</sup>  
 The Confederates, on the other hand, explained this short encounter. . . .<sup>119</sup>  
 . . . apparently within sight of Chichester’s three lost carronades.<sup>120</sup>  
 Captain James Harvey Cline of the Roundheads. . . .<sup>121</sup>  
 Capers described the Federal fire as “severe”. . . .<sup>122</sup>  
 With that, Capers gathered up his prisoners and ordered his force to retire.<sup>123</sup>  
 Late in the year, following transport to Annapolis, Maryland, they were exchanged.<sup>124</sup>  
 Keenan’s signals to Howard and Howard’s to the ship’s gunners. . . .<sup>125</sup>  
 The *Mercury* reported. . . .<sup>126</sup>  
 Brennan writes that the rain, in fact, did not begin. . . .<sup>127</sup>  
 The unfortunate Private Clarke died the following morning.<sup>128</sup>  
 If so, it mostly likely had been spiked or otherwise disabled.<sup>129</sup>  
 Understanding the threat from the Union Navy’s guns. . . .<sup>130</sup>

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<sup>109</sup> Charleston *Mercury*, June 9, 1862, p. 2

<sup>110</sup> Charleston *Mercury*, September 22, 1862, p. 1; ORN 13: 75-76

<sup>111</sup> Charleston *Mercury*, June 9, 1862, p. 2

<sup>112</sup> Symonds, *op. cit.*, p. 197

<sup>113</sup> Charleston *Mercury*, September 22, 1862, p. 1

<sup>114</sup> William Todd, *The Seventy-ninth Highlanders, New York Volunteers in the War of the Rebellion, 1861-1865*, (Albany, Press of Brandow, Barton and Co., 1886), pp. 5, 138

<sup>115</sup> Wheeling *Daily Intelligencer*, June 19, 1862, p. 1

<sup>116</sup> Brennan, *op. cit.*, pp. 69-70

<sup>117</sup> Du Pont Letters, p. 102

<sup>118</sup> Todd, p. 139

<sup>119</sup> Eugene W. Jones, Jr. *Enlisted for the War: The Struggles of the Gallant 24<sup>th</sup> Regiment, South Carolina Volunteers, Infantry, 1861-1865*, (Hightstown, Longstreet House, 1997), p. 28; Charleston *Daily Courier*, June 9, 1862, p. 1)

<sup>120</sup> Ellison Capers, *Capers Letters*, June 5, 1862

<sup>121</sup> Brennan, *op. cit.*, p. 78

<sup>122</sup> Capers Letters, June 5, 1862

<sup>123</sup> W. Chris Phelps, *Charlestonians in War: The Charleston Battalion*, p. 84; ORA 14:29-30

<sup>124</sup> Charleston *Daily Courier*, June 4, p. 1; William G. Gavin. *Campaigning With the Roundheads: The History of the Hundredth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteer Infantry Regiment in the American Civil War 1861-1865*, (Bristol, Higginson, 2008), p. 84

<sup>125</sup> ORA 14:28

<sup>126</sup> Charleston *Mercury*, June 4, 1862, p.2

<sup>127</sup> Brennan, *op. cit.*, p. 84

<sup>128</sup> Todd, pp. 140-41

<sup>129</sup> Charleston *Daily Courier*, July 8, 1862, p. 1

<sup>130</sup> Charleston *Mercury*, June 5, 1862, p. 1

## Chapter Eight: Does It Ever get Dry in This Country?

... “the wind blowing a gale and the rain coming down in torrents.”<sup>131</sup>  
... “I say, does it ever get dry in this country?”<sup>132</sup>  
Commodore Du Pont wrote to his wife. . . .<sup>133</sup>  
One Connecticut boy wrote on June 19. . . .<sup>134</sup>  
A Confederate soldier described the rainstorms. . . .<sup>135</sup>  
A Union artilleryman wrote of the soggy campsites. . . .<sup>136</sup>  
... “Whew! How sour and mouldy everything about our tents smelled.”<sup>137</sup>  
Perhaps a New Hampshire infantryman summed it best. . . .<sup>138</sup>  
... “was letting one of the truly golden opportunities of the campaign slip from his grasp”<sup>139</sup>  
... “unable to ascertain the exact intentions or design of the enemy.”<sup>140</sup>  
The weather clearly affected the operations of both armies.<sup>141</sup>  
... the expected attack would likely happen any day.<sup>142</sup>  
Colonel Hagood sardonically noted that “things were pretty generally haphazard”<sup>143</sup>  
... “there was considerable unpleasantness among them. . . .”<sup>144</sup>  
“In addition, the brigade mustered a battery of field artillery. . . .”<sup>145</sup>  
Stevens urged caution and pointed out. . . .<sup>146</sup>  
... “this work is important and its speedy completion necessary.”<sup>147</sup>  
Commander Marchand wrote on June 7. . . .<sup>148</sup>  
Woodford had died in 1887. . . .<sup>149</sup>  
They had nicknamed their unit “The Fremont Regiment”. . . .<sup>150</sup>  
He soon decided that discretion was the better part of valor. . . .<sup>151</sup>

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<sup>131</sup> Brennan, op. cit., p. 88

<sup>132</sup> Hagood, op. cit., p. 90

<sup>133</sup> DuPont Letters, p. 102

<sup>134</sup> *Charleston Courier*, July 9, 1862, p. 1

<sup>135</sup> *Ibid.*, June 9, 1862, p. 1

<sup>136</sup> Herbert W. Beecher, *History of the First Light Battery Connecticut Volunteers, 1861-1865* (New York, A.T. De La Mare Printing and Publishing Co., 1901), p. 140

<sup>137</sup> Brennan, op. cit., p. 101

<sup>138</sup> Eldredge, p. 167

<sup>139</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>140</sup> ORA 14:551

<sup>141</sup> Todd, p. 145

<sup>142</sup> *Charleston Mercury*, June 9, 1862, p. 2

<sup>143</sup> Hagood, p. 91

<sup>144</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 93

<sup>145</sup> Jones, p. 33

<sup>146</sup> Hazard Stevens, *The Life of Isaac Ingalls Stevens, vol 2*, p. 393

<sup>147</sup> ORA 14:553

<sup>148</sup> Symonds, op. cit., p. 202

<sup>149</sup> Stephen Walkley, *History of the Seventh Connecticut Volunteer Infantry, Appendix pp. 11-12*; *Hartford Courant*, January 25, 1905; Jones, op. cit., pp. 31-32.

<sup>150</sup> Ernest Mettendorf, *Between Triumph and Disaster: The History of the 46<sup>th</sup> New York Infantry, 1861-1865*, p. 7

<sup>151</sup> ORA 14:33; Brennan, op. cit., p. 114



Neither General Stevens nor Captain Stevens reported any casualties. . . .<sup>152</sup>  
Unfortunately, the 17th South Carolina mistook some of their own. . . .<sup>153</sup>  
Professor Thaddeus Lowe had shipped one of his “aerostats” . . . .<sup>154</sup>  
Stevens wrote to General Benham on June 6. . . .<sup>155</sup>  
One New Yorker wrote home. . . .<sup>156</sup>  
Sol Legare Island therefore became the only place. . . .<sup>157</sup>

## Chapter Nine: The First Heavy Blows

“The Rebel batteries on James Island. . . .”<sup>158</sup>  
“Don’t allow your command, especially the batteries, to waste ammunition. . . .”<sup>159</sup>  
In that last reflection, at least, he certainly was correct.<sup>160</sup>  
Captain Lusk of General Stevens’s staff expressed a common view. . . .<sup>161</sup>  
“The Parrott guns of the squadron are completely used up. . . .”<sup>162</sup>  
General Benham began by asking Commander Drayton. . . .<sup>163</sup>  
The Confederates pre-empted it with an attack of their own on June 10.<sup>164</sup>  
. . . “drive the gunboats from the landing.”<sup>165</sup>  
This advance must have taken quite some time. . . .<sup>166</sup>  
. . . Commander Marchand described it as “a night attack.”<sup>167</sup>  
Three men of the 97th Pennsylvania were killed. . . .<sup>168</sup>  
Wright wrote to Commander Drayton on June 11. . . .<sup>169</sup>  
“The gunboats then” . . . .<sup>170</sup>  
He later explained this in a report. . . .<sup>171</sup>  
On June 9, Representative Charles A. Wickliffe of Kentucky. . . .<sup>172</sup>  
Informing him that there could be no reinforcements until after Richmond fell. . . .<sup>173</sup>

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<sup>152</sup> Stevens, *op. cit.*, p.398; ORA 14:33

<sup>153</sup> ORA 14:34

<sup>154</sup> ORA, Series 3, 3:267

<sup>155</sup> ORA 14:986

<sup>156</sup> Buffalo *Commercial Advertiser*, June 19, 1862, p. 1

<sup>157</sup> Frederick S. Haydon. *Military Ballooning During the Early Civil War*, pp. 378-80, 388-97

<sup>158</sup> Symonds, *op. cit.*, p. 203

<sup>159</sup> ORA 14:556

<sup>160</sup> ORN 13:88

<sup>161</sup> Lusk, *op. cit.*, p. 152

<sup>162</sup> ORN 13:88

<sup>163</sup> ORA 14:350

<sup>164</sup> ORA 14:350-52

<sup>165</sup> Hagood, *op. cit.*, p. 91

<sup>166</sup> ORA 14:37

<sup>167</sup> Symonds, *op. cit.*, p. 205

<sup>168</sup> ORA 14: 35-38; Brennan, *op. cit.*, pp. 129-36

<sup>169</sup> ORN 13:94

<sup>170</sup> Symonds, *op. cit.*, p. 206

<sup>171</sup> ORA 14:42

<sup>172</sup> Edward A. Miller, Jr. *Lincoln’s Abolitionist General: The Biography of David Hunter*, (Columbia, University of South Carolina Press, 1997), pp. 104, 108

<sup>173</sup> ORA 14:350

“If you can safely leave,” he wrote. . . .<sup>174</sup>  
... “was much put out and said he would withdraw all the troops from James Island.”<sup>175</sup>  
This letter was passed to the Confederates via a flag of truce. . . .<sup>176</sup>  
Moreover, as the captain was found to be a Mason. . . .<sup>177</sup>  
Finally, he instructed Shanks Evans. . . .<sup>178</sup>  
... “I hardly see how the removal of Pemberton can be avoided.”<sup>179</sup>  
From this point, as Patrick Brennan poetically noted. . . .<sup>180</sup>

## Chapter Ten: The Council of War

This battery and Battery Williams. . . .<sup>181</sup>  
The one in Battery Stevens had been used in the earlier bombardment. . . .<sup>182</sup>  
One Reb was killed when a shell passed through. . . .<sup>183</sup>  
... “and it was popularly supposed that the wind of the ball had taken the breath from his body.”<sup>184</sup>  
Apparently, they fell back quickly enough to avoid alerting Colonel Lamar’s pickets.<sup>185</sup>  
... “a fight at long taw,” as one writer put it.<sup>186</sup>  
... and the Federals certainly did their best to irritate the Rebel camps as well.<sup>187</sup>  
... “He will exercise the command thereof until further orders.”<sup>188</sup>  
Several days prior to this, Pemberton had ordered. . . .<sup>189</sup>  
... but they all apparently were worth it to General Pemberton.<sup>190</sup>  
... “put out of sight the anomalous position you are placed in.”<sup>191</sup>  
There is no mention of Evans in connection with the First District.<sup>192</sup>  
Perhaps to lay any confusion to rest. . . .<sup>193</sup>  
On July 17, Shanks took command. . . .<sup>194</sup>

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<sup>174</sup> ORA 14:46

<sup>175</sup> Du Pont Letters, p. 118

<sup>176</sup> Charleston *Mercury*, June 21, 1862, p. 2

<sup>177</sup> Brennan, *op. cit.*, p. 144

<sup>178</sup> ORA 14:559

<sup>179</sup> ORA 14:560

<sup>180</sup> Brennan, *op. cit.*, p. 310

<sup>181</sup> Todd, *op. cit.*, pp. 146-47

<sup>182</sup> Ibid.

<sup>183</sup> Brennan, *op. cit.*, p. 152

<sup>184</sup> Todd, *op. cit.*, p. 146

<sup>185</sup> Eldredge, *op. cit.*, p. 171

<sup>186</sup> Charleston *Mercury*, June 18, 1862, p. 1

<sup>187</sup> Brennan, *op. cit.*, p. 161

<sup>188</sup> ORA 14:566

<sup>189</sup> ORA 14:558

<sup>190</sup> Hagood, *op. cit.*, p. 93

<sup>191</sup> James A. Morgan, III. *A Little Short of Boats: The Battles of Ball’s Bluff and Edwards Ferry, October 21-22, 1861*, (El Dorado Hills, Savas Beatie, 2011), pp. 5-6

<sup>192</sup> ORA 14: 575-76

<sup>193</sup> ORA 14: 581

<sup>194</sup> ORA 14: 586

As historian Patrick Brennan wrote. . . .<sup>195</sup>  
They gathered aboard the ship. . . .<sup>196</sup>  
Stevens replied that he considered only “a bare possibility” of success.<sup>197</sup>  
Wright then turned to Benham and said, “There, General, you have my opinion.”<sup>198</sup>  
Stevens wrote to Hunter on the same day, saying the same thing.<sup>199</sup>  
. . . “no advance should be made”. . .<sup>200</sup>  
. . . “a reconnaissance upon the fort.”<sup>201</sup>  
. . . “the three officers above named [Stevens, Wright, and Williams] were scarcely in favor of the movement.”<sup>202</sup>

## **Chapter Eleven: One of the Decisive Engagements of the War**

A newspaper account by “EYE-WITNESS”. . . .<sup>203</sup>  
This order seemed to have been given. . . .<sup>204</sup>  
Colonel Lamar later somewhat sheepishly admitted. . . .<sup>205</sup>  
. . . “had fallen asleep upon the parapet” about 3:30.<sup>206</sup>  
By 3:30, Brig. Gen. Stevens’s division. . . .<sup>207</sup>  
The cannoneers even muffled the wheels of their guns. . . .<sup>208</sup>  
. . . “the muskets to be loaded but not capped.”<sup>209</sup>  
A detachment from Company E of the New York engineers. . . .<sup>210</sup>  
One of the companies, serving as artillery. . . .<sup>211</sup>  
Other Roundhead detachments waited on picket duty. . . .<sup>212</sup>  
Stevens reported hearing the fighting at Secessionville. . . .<sup>213</sup>  
He notified Col. Hagood who later wrote in his *Memoirs*. . . .<sup>214</sup>  
In addition to all of this, Brig. Gen. Evans claimed. . . .<sup>215</sup>

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<sup>195</sup> Brennan, *op. cit.*, p. 156

<sup>196</sup> Stevens, *op. cit.*, p. 400

<sup>197</sup> ORA 14:48-49

<sup>198</sup> Stevens, *op. cit.*, p. 400

<sup>199</sup> ORA 14:44

<sup>200</sup> ORA 14:42

<sup>201</sup> ORA 14:45

<sup>202</sup> ORN 13:107

<sup>203</sup> ORA 14:95; *Charleston Mercury*, June 24, 1862, p. 1

<sup>204</sup> ORA 14:52

<sup>205</sup> ORA 14:96

<sup>206</sup> Hagood, *op. cit.*, p. 94

<sup>207</sup> ORA 14:63

<sup>208</sup> Beecher, *op. cit.*, p. 144

<sup>209</sup> Stevens, *op. cit.*, p. 403

<sup>210</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 402

<sup>211</sup> ORA 14:83

<sup>212</sup> Gavin, *op. cit.*, p. 97

<sup>213</sup> ORA 14:103

<sup>214</sup> Hagood, *op. cit.*, p. 93

<sup>215</sup> ORA 14:91

He made a similar claim in his Ball's Bluff report the previous October.<sup>216</sup>  
 At some point closer in, they gave a loud cheer. . . .<sup>217</sup>  
 Colonel Lamar said that when he first saw them. . . .<sup>218</sup>  
 . . . "ordered the 8-inch columbiad to be loaded with grape."<sup>219</sup>  
 According to one newspaper report. . . .<sup>220</sup>  
 . . . "give them canister freely, which he did."<sup>221</sup>  
 As Patrick Brennan wrote. . . .<sup>222</sup>  
 There those men became cannoneers. . . .<sup>223</sup>  
 Not long after the men of the Charleston Battalion had settled into their work. . . .<sup>224</sup>  
 He turned command over to Colonel Gaillard. . . .<sup>225</sup>  
 . . . "on his knees cursing like a pirate" from the pain.<sup>226</sup>  
 Colonel Hawley estimated that he was 120 yards from the battery wall.<sup>227</sup>  
 . . . "fell back and broke through our regiment."<sup>228</sup>  
 In the midst of this, one Connecticut soldier was killed. . . .<sup>229</sup>  
 . . . "chains, glass bottles, scrap iron, (and) horseshoes."<sup>230</sup>  
 One New Yorker picked up a piece of a hammer from the ground and said. . . .<sup>231</sup>  
 Others mentioned chains, nails, glass and. . . .<sup>232</sup>  
 They passed through the remnants of the Massachusetts formation. . . .<sup>233</sup>  
 . . . "dropping amongst the cotton ridges in front of the fort."<sup>234</sup>  
 . . . "practically atomized," as one historian put it.<sup>235</sup>  
 One reporter wrote. . . .<sup>236</sup>  
 Colonel John Jackson's Granite State boys moved on the left. . . .<sup>237</sup>  
 As the *Mercury* later reported. . . .<sup>238</sup>  
 When Lt. Jeter opened fire with his "brass howitzer" . . . .<sup>239</sup>

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<sup>216</sup> Morgan, *op. cit.*, p. 67

<sup>217</sup> Stevens, *op. cit.*, p. 404

<sup>218</sup> ORA 14:94

<sup>219</sup> Ibid.

<sup>220</sup> Charleston *Mercury*, June 18, 1862, p. 1

<sup>221</sup> ORA 14:94

<sup>222</sup> Patrick Brennan. "The Battle of Secessionville: Yankee Debacle at Charleston, South Carolina." *Blue & Gray Magazine*, February 1999, p. 45

<sup>223</sup> Phelps, *op. cit.*, pp. 88-90

<sup>224</sup> Charleston *Mercury*, June 18, 1862, p. 1

<sup>225</sup> ORA 14:94

<sup>226</sup> Beecher, *op. cit.*, p. 152

<sup>227</sup> ORA 14:1006-07

<sup>228</sup> ORA 14:69

<sup>229</sup> Brennan, *Secessionville: Assault on Charleston*, (Boston, Da Capo, 1996), p. 189

<sup>230</sup> Beecher, *op. cit.*, p. 147

<sup>231</sup> Todd, *op. cit.*, p. 161

<sup>232</sup> ORA 14:73

<sup>233</sup> Todd, *op. cit.*, p. 154

<sup>234</sup> ORA 14:72

<sup>235</sup> Phelps, *op. cit.*, p. 91

<sup>236</sup> Charleston *Daily Courier*, June 18, 1862, p. 1

<sup>237</sup> Brennan, *op. cit.*, p. 219

<sup>238</sup> Charleston *Mercury*, June 18, p.1

<sup>239</sup> Capers Letters, June 17, 1862

... “enfilade battery near Clark’s house.”<sup>240</sup>  
... “neither he nor his men knew anything about the guns or the ammunition.”<sup>241</sup>  
Shouting “Remember Butler” as they charged into the battery. . . .<sup>242</sup>  
... “many of their shells exploded among our own troops” in the fields around the Tower Battery.<sup>243</sup>  
... “some (of the Navy’s shells) came much nearer our own men than those of the enemy.”<sup>244</sup>  
Others fired so quickly and carelessly. . . .<sup>245</sup>  
Obviously not wanting to be cut off. . . .<sup>246</sup>  
The troopers acted as a rear guard. . . .<sup>247</sup>  
... “and by 10 a.m. the entire force was back in camp.”<sup>248</sup>  
Confederate Lt. Iredell Jones honestly and soberly wrote. . . .<sup>249</sup>

## **Chapter Twelve: Your Gun Deserves to Be Mounted on a Golden Pivot**

... “Lieutenant, your gun deserves to be mounted on a golden pivot.”<sup>250</sup>  
... “one of the decisive engagements of the war.”<sup>251</sup>  
... “I believe that the whole eastern line would have fallen in forty-eight hours.”<sup>252</sup>  
... “in that way they would have successfully turned our flank.”<sup>253</sup>  
Lieutenant Iredell Jones wrote. . . .<sup>254</sup>  
As Milby Burton has written. . . .<sup>255</sup>  
Captain Alfred Rockwell wrote. . . .<sup>256</sup>  
... “if the attacking column had not set up a cheer . . . but had advanced silently” and surprised the sleeping rebels.<sup>257</sup>  
They captured over 200 Springfield and Enfield rifles and muskets. . . .<sup>258</sup>  
This broke down to 107 killed, 487 wounded, and 89 captured or missing.<sup>259</sup>

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<sup>240</sup> ORA 14:1014

<sup>241</sup> Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 36

<sup>242</sup> Hayes, *op. cit.*, p. 56

<sup>243</sup> Copp, *op. cit.*, p. 136

<sup>244</sup> ORN 13:104

<sup>245</sup> Copp, *op. cit.*, p. 141

<sup>246</sup> ORA 14:84; Brennan, *op. cit.*, pp. 236-38

<sup>247</sup> ORA 14:85

<sup>248</sup> Stevens, *op. cit.*, p. 411

<sup>249</sup> SHS, vol. 12, “Letter from Fort Sumter,” p. 6

<sup>250</sup> Rockford *Chronicle*, Rockford, Alabama, Apr 21, 1916

<sup>251</sup> Hagood, *op. cit.*, p. 96

<sup>252</sup> ORA 14:594

<sup>253</sup> Capers Letters, June 17, 1862

<sup>254</sup> SHS, *op. cit.*

<sup>255</sup> Burton, *op. cit.*, pp. 98-99

<sup>256</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 166

<sup>257</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>258</sup> ORA 14:104

<sup>259</sup> ORA 14:51

The corresponding Confederate numbers. . . .<sup>260</sup>  
Perhaps most importantly for historians. . . .<sup>261</sup>  
. . . “Remember James Island! Remember James Island!”<sup>262</sup>

## **Appendix B: The Brothers: “Him on the one side and me on the other.”**

The information in this appendix is taken from the article by J. Tracy Power and the book by Terry A. Johnston. See the online bibliography.

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