



DESTRUCTION OF THE PRIVATEER "NASHVILLE" BY THE FEDERAL IRONCLAD "MONTAUK," CAPTAIN J. R. WORDEN, IN THE OGEECHEE RIVER, GA., FEBRUARY 28, 1863.

FROM A SKETCH BY W. T. CRANE.

On February 27, 1863, Captain Worden, the hero of the Monitor fight, destroyed a dangerous Confederate privateer in Ogeechee River. The swift blockade runner "Nashville," having been hemmed in by the Union fleet, was transformed into a privateer, and lay in the river above Fort McAllister. The bed of the river was lined with torpedoes to prevent Union vessels running up to destroy the "Nashville" before she could get to sea, where, her owners hoped, she would prove another "Alabama." Scouts reported that she had dropped down near the fort, awaiting a chance to slip out. Worden promptly steamed up in the "Montauk" to verify the report, and, seeing the "Nashville" aground above the fort, went ahead in defiance of the torpedoes and the guns of the fort. When within 1200 yards of the privateer, he opened with shells and continued to bombard until she burst into flames and blew up. Turning back, he ran the "Montauk" through a gauntlet of fire, both shot and shell, from the fort and batteries opposite. The iron sides of the "Montauk" turned the balls like water, but in contact with infernal machines no vessel is invulnerable. Near the mouth of the river she ran upon a submarine torpedo, which tore a chunk out of her hull, and she grounded, fortunately within range of companion vessels, which had stood at safe distance to witness Worden's gallant exploit.