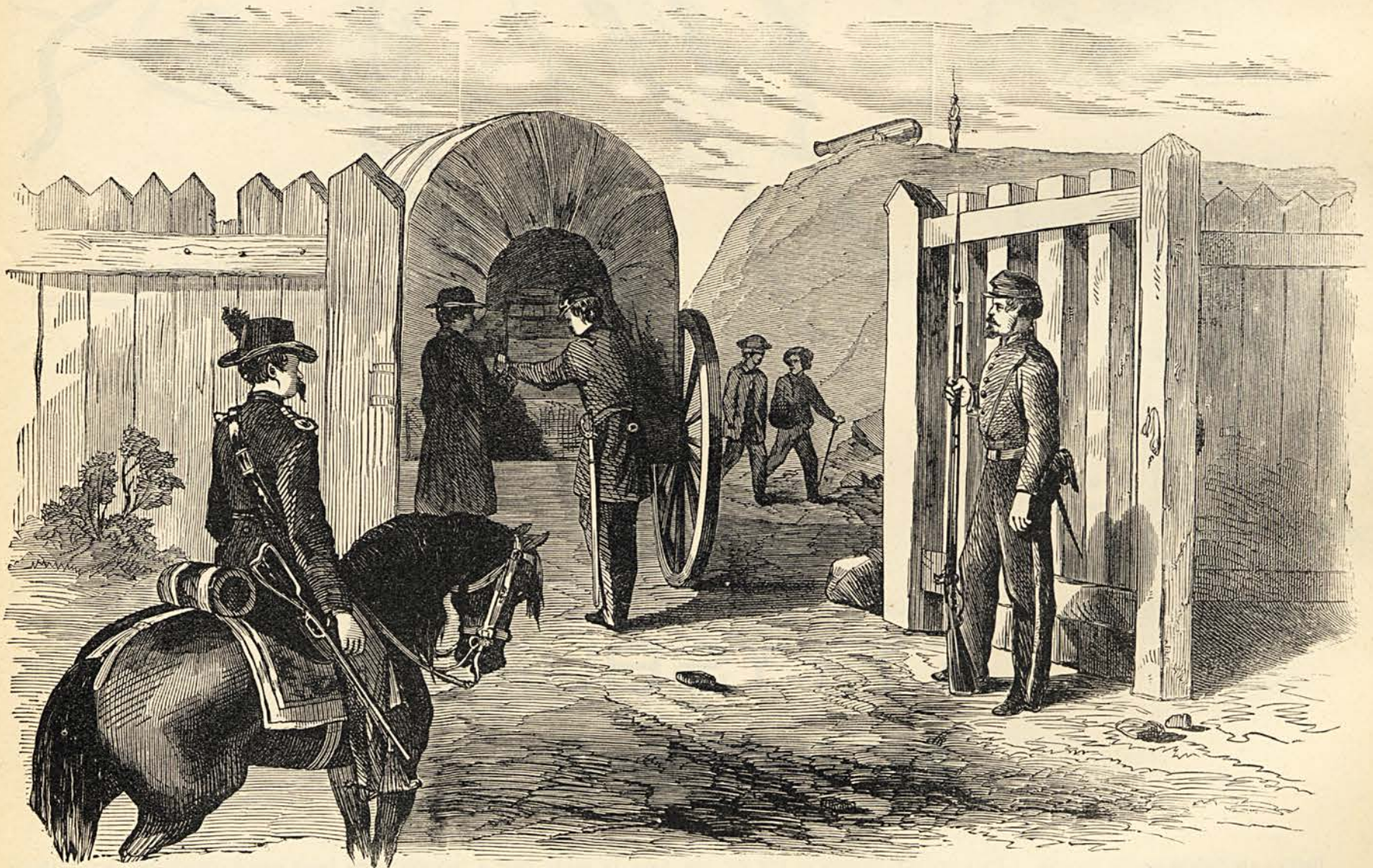




DISCOVERY OF A CONFEDERATE BATTERY AT MESSECH'S POINT, ON THE POTOMAC, NEAR THE MOUTH OF BACK RIVER, BY A SCOUTING PARTY OF THE TENTH REGIMENT OF NEW YORK ZOUAVES.



SEARCHING VIRGINIAN FARMERS' WAGONS AT THE GATE OF FORT RUNYON, BEFORE ALLOWING THEM TO PASS THE LONG BRIDGE INTO WASHINGTON.

After the first Bull Run, there was panic, confusion, trepidation, almost despair. The Government at Washington sat uneasily in power. There was more real alarm than was divulged to the country. The art of military lying, if not then invented, was assiduously promoted. Of course courage soon came again. The Confederates on their part pressed their advantage. They came up to the very bank of the Potomac and planted batteries. The upper illustration shows the cross-river discovery of such a battery at Messeh's Point by a scouting party of the Tenth Regiment of New York Zouaves. The enemy made his way, not only to the river, but in desultory and subtle ways into the city. The Long Bridge was traversed by his silent footfalls. The knowledge of what was done in Washington was held by the enemy. Great vigilance had to be exercised to cut off the private threads of communication stretching from the Capitol to the headquarters of Johnston and Lee. The scene depicted in the lower engraving shows the examination of farmers' wagons at the gate of Fort Runyon before allowing them to pass the Long Bridge of the Potomac.