

on board about 900 troops commanded by General Benjamin F. Butler, and two were schooners carrying iron surf-boats. It sailed on the 26th of August, 1861, with sealed orders, and early the next morning an attempt was made to land the troops through the surf, at a point three miles from the inlet, but the heavy surf dashed the clumsy iron boats upon the shore, drenching the men, wetting the powder, and endangering everything. About one-third of the troops, however, were landed, with two field-guns, and remained there under protection of the fire from the ships. The forts were garrisoned by about 600 men, and mounted 25 guns. Stringham's flag-ship, the frigate "Minnesota," led off in the attack, followed by the "Susquehanna" and "Wabash," and the guns of the smaller fort were soon silenced. The frigates were at such a distance that they could drop shells into it with their pivot-guns, while the shot from the fort could not reach them. Afterward the larger work, Fort Hatteras, was bombarded, but with no practical effect. But meanwhile the troops that had landed through the surf had taken possession of Fort Clark. The next morning (the 28th) the frigates anchored within reach of Fort Hatteras, and began a steady bombardment. As before, the shot from the fort fell short of the ships, and neither could that from the smooth-bore broadside guns reach the fort; but the pivot-guns and the rifled pieces of one vessel wrought great havoc. One plunging shell went down through a ventilator and narrowly missed exploding the magazine. At the end of three hours the fort surrendered. Its defenders had suffered a loss of about 50 in killed and wounded. They had been reinforced in the night, but a steamer was seen taking away a load of troops just before the surrender. The 700 prisoners were sent on board the flag-ship and carried to New York. The victors had not lost a man. Here a coaling station was established for the blockading fleet. Two of the frigates remained in the Sound, and within a fortnight half a dozen blockade-runners entered the inlet and were captured.

A much larger expedition sailed from Hampton Roads late in October. It consisted of more than 50 vessels—frigates, gunboats, transports, tugs, steam ferry-boats, and schooners—carrying 22,000 men. The fleet was commanded by Flag-officer Samuel F. Du Pont, the troops by General Thos. W. Sherman (who must not be confounded with General William T. Sherman, famous for his march to the sea). Though the expedition sailed with sealed orders, the information leaked out as usual, and while it was on its way the Confederate Secretary of War telegraphed to the commander at Hilton Head to expect it.

A tremendous gale was encountered on the passage, the fleet was scattered, one transport was wrecked, with a loss of seven lives, one gunboat was obliged to throw her broadside battery overboard, a transport threw over her cargo, and one storeship was lost. When the storm was over, only a single gunboat was in sight from the flag-ship. But the fleet slowly came together again, and was joined by some of the frigates that were blockading Charleston harbor. They arrived off the entrance to Port Royal harbor on the 5th and 6th of November. This entrance was protected by two earthworks—Fort Walker on Hilton Head

(the south side), and Fort Beauregard on St. Helena Island (the north side). These forts were about two and a half miles apart, and were garrisoned by South Carolina troops.

On the morning of the 7th the order of battle was formed. The main column consisted of 10 vessels, led by the flag-ship "Wabash," and was ordered to attack Fort Walker. Another column of four vessels was ordered to fire upon Fort Beauregard, pass in, and attack the Confederate craft. All were under way soon after breakfast, and were favored by a tranquil sea. The main column, a ship's length apart, steamed in steadily at the rate of six miles an hour, passing Fort Walker at a distance of 800 yards, and delivering a fire of shells and rifled shot. Every gun in the fort that could be brought to bear was worked as rapidly as possible, in a gallant defence. After the line had passed the fort, it turned and steamed out again, passing this time within 600 yards, and delivering fire from the guns on the other side of the vessels. Three times they thus went around in a long ellipse, each time keeping the fort under fire for about 20 minutes. Then the "Bienville," which had the heaviest guns, sailed in closer yet and delivered a fire that dismounted several pieces and wrought dreadful havoc. Meanwhile two or three gunboats had taken a position from which

of the most gallant was in the region of the Big Sandy River in eastern Kentucky, where Humphrey Marshall had gathered a Confederate force of about 2500 (mostly Kentuckians) at Paintville. Colonel James A. Garfield (afterward President), in command of 1800 infantry and 300 cavalry, drove him out of Paintville, pursued him beyond Prestonburg, came up with him at noon of January 10, and fought him till night, when Marshall retreated under cover of the darkness, leaving his dead on the field.

In the autumn of 1861 a Confederate force, under General Felix K. Zollicoffer, had been pushed forward by way of Knoxville to eastern Kentucky, but was defeated at Camp Wildcat, October 21, by 7000 men under General Schoepff, and fell back to Mill Springs at the head of navigation on the Cumberland. Zollicoffer soon crossed to the northern bank and fortified in the angle between the river and Fishing Creek. The National forces in the vicinity were commanded by General George H. Thomas, who watched Zollicoffer so closely that when the latter was told by his superiors he should not have crossed the river he could only answer that it was now too late to return. As Zollicoffer was only a journalist, with more zeal than military knowledge, General George B. Crittenden was sent to supersede him. Thomas was slowly advancing through rainy weather, over heavy roads, to drive this force out of the State, and had reached Logan's cross-roads, within 10 miles of the Confederate camp, when Crittenden determined to move out and attack him. The battle began early on the morning of January 19, 1862. Thomas rapidly brought up one detachment after another and threw them into line. The attack was directed mainly against the National left, where the fighting was obstinate and bloody. Here Zollicoffer, thinking the 4th Kentucky was a Confederate regiment firing upon its friends, rode



SLEEPING QUARTERS OF THE RHODE ISLAND REGIMENT IN THE PATENT OFFICE, WASHINGTON.

they enfiladed the work, and the flag-ship came to a stand at short range and pounded away steadily. This was more than anything at that stage of the war could endure, and from the mast-head the troops were seen streaming out of the fort and across Hilton Head Island as if in panic. A flag of truce was sent on shore, but there was no one to receive it, and soon after two o'clock the National colors were floating over the fort. The flanking column of vessels had attacked Fort Beauregard; and when the commander of that work saw that Fort Walker was abandoned, he also retreated with his force. The Confederate vessels escaped by running up a shallow inlet. The loss in the fleet was 8 men killed and 23 wounded; that of the Confederates, as reported by their commander, was 11 killed and 52 wounded or missing. The road across Hilton Head Island to a wharf whence the retreating troops were taken to the main land was strewn with arms and accoutrements, and two howitzers were abandoned. The surgeon of the fort had been killed by a shell and buried by a falling parapet. The troops took possession of both forts, repaired and strengthened the works, formed an intrenched camp, and thus gave the Government a permanent foothold on the soil of South Carolina.

The year 1862 opened with indications of lively and decisive work west of the mountains. One

forward to correct the supposed mistake, and was shot dead by its Colonel, Speed S. Fry. When, at length, the right of the Confederate line had been pressed back and broken, a steady fire having been kept up on the centre, the 9th Ohio Regiment made a charge on its left flank, and the whole line was routed. The Confederates took refuge in their intrenchments, where Thomas swiftly pursued and closely invested them. But in the night they managed to cross the river, leaving behind their wounded, 12 guns, all their horses, mules, and wagons, and a large amount of stores. In the further retreat two of the Confederate regiments scattered to their homes, while a large number from other regiments deserted. The National loss in killed and wounded was 246; that of the Confederates, 471. This action is variously called the battle of Fishing Creek and the battle of Mill Springs.

When General Henry W. Halleck was placed in command of the Department of Missouri, in November, 1861, he divided it into districts, giving to General Ulysses S. Grant the District of Cairo, which included Southern Illinois, the counties of Missouri south of Cape Girardeau, and all of Kentucky that lies west of Cumberland River. Where the Tennessee and the Cumberland enter Kentucky from the south they are about 10 miles apart, and here the Confederates had erected