

**\$2 PER ANNUM**

NO 23

CHARGE NUMBER: 100-105-100



Have just been received:  
**FORT SUMTER, August 25—7.35 P. M.**  
 There is an assault now being made at Battery Wagner.  
 (Signed) **ALFRED RHETT,**  
 Colonel Commanding.

**FORT JOHNSON, August 25—7.45 P. M.**  
 The enemy is assaulting Battery Wagner, evidently in heavy force.  
 (Signed) **C. H. OLMSTEAD,**  
 Colonel Commanding.

Later.—The musketry firing has ceased. The enemy is firing a few mortar shells at Battery Wagner. The first assault had been repulsed. No more shells have been thrown at the city since daylight on Monday morning.

**Visit to the Batteries.**  
 Ora, the Charleston correspondent of the Mobile Tribune gives the following account of a visit to the batteries around the harbor on the 11th instant:

At 9 o'clock last night I accompanied Gen. Ripley in his barge, in company with Captain Ross, of the Austrian army, to make an inspection of the forts. We

first visited Sumter, three and a half miles from the city, and found the garrison actively employed in protecting the walls by piling tires of sand bags in the inside, some twenty feet thick, the walls of this fort being six feet thick, thus making an obstruction of brick and sand of twenty-six feet to resist the enemy's shot. The men seemed in the best of spirits, and from the jolly mirth which prevailed, one would have supposed that they were enjoying a frolic. In the centre of the fort was a large mortar, which every now and then threw its shell through the air whirling over the enemy's works on Morris Island.

Point, at Battery Gregg, which is 1,300 yards from Sumter, on Morris Island. We soon landed at the beach there being but a little surf, and walked up through the sand to the officer's quarters. Here we found all quiet, and procured three horses to ride down to Battery Wagner, which is about three quarters of a mile down the beach, being 2,500 yards from Sumter, in an air line, and four and a half miles from the city.

the descriptions of robber's caves, which he read of his boyhood. Entering a narrow passage from the north side, you pass through the centre of the bastions of the work, which is supported by immense timbers and ratters, covered over with earth and sand some 20 feet thick. The interior of the work is called the bomb-proof, where the quarters of the men and officers are and the magazines, &c. The garrison was all alive, battle lanterns were passing to and fro, and the men were

entire of the battery we ascended a pair of steps to the east bastion or sea face of the battery, over the glacis to the ramparts and parapets. From this point we watched with considerable interest the bursting of the shell from Sumter over the enemy's works. Our pickets were about 150 yards from the enemy's, and a detachment was being sent out at the time to relieve them. For prudential reasons I am not permitted to give your readers a more perfect description of the work. It

is very close in the bomb-proof, but the men frequently sleep outside, except when heavy shelling is progressing. The enemy's advance line is now within 800 yards of Wagner.

In his letter of the 12th he gives us some information about the negro question, which we do not remember to have seen mentioned elsewhere.

Last week General Gilmore addressed a note to General Beauregard, of a most objectionable character, charging the

with bad faith in not having sent back the negro prisoners, and making a demand for their threatening, at the same time, to put in execution the Federalists' proclamation of Lincoln, of the 30th July last, declaring that he will execute a rebel soldier for every Yankee, white or black, killed in violation of the laws of war (D) and put at bay on the public works.

rebel for every negro sold or detained in slavery. I learn that General Beauregard has made a very dignified and severe reply to the most impudent demand, showing the want of good faith to be entirely on the part of General Gilmore, who could not plead ignorance either of President Davis' proclamation, or the act of the Confederate Congress on the subject.— The negro prisoners will most certainly not be given up, and the issue is therefore directly made on this point between the

two belligerents. The result is, as before stated, the war must become one of *extermination*, and hereafter there will be no more exchanging of prisoners.

**From Natchez.**

The Mississippian is permitted to make the following extracts from a private letter, written by a lady in Natchez, on the 10th instant, to a friend in Selma, Alabama:

"In a short time after the fall of Vicksburg and Port Hudson, Natchez was garrisoned by

"The streets are all barricaded, and the Yankees daily expect our troops here to fight them.

"We have no rights here. The Yankees and negroes go about stealing and destroying everything they can find. They have taken most of the negroes, and nearly all the ladies in the town are at the wash tub.

"The river is full of gunboats. It is a hard sight to see the negroes, how they flock to the yankees, and how they rob the citizens of everything valuable."