

vantages in the speedy erection of defences, as it answered all the purposes of a ditch. The loss of the Americans in this bold and well advised attack, was 24 killed, 115 wounded and 74 missing. The British loss was estimated at 46 killed, 167 wounded and 64 missing. This battle saved the city of New Orleans, for had the British advanced the next morning it would have been impossible to have withstood them. Fortunately, all the prisoners who fell into their hands concurred in magnifying the American force to 10 or 15000 men.

In the mean time, a prodigious effort was making to fortify the American position. Bales of cotton were used to expedite the erection of the breast work. In a few days, the line extended a thousand yards to the swamp which was there impassable. A swell in the river, somewhat unusual at this season, enabled them to make an opening in the levee, and to flood the ground in front of the line, and when the water subsided, a sufficient quantity was left in the ditch. On the opposite bank of the river, some works were also constructed, and batteries erected. On the 26th the British directed hot shot at the Caroline, who from her position annoyed them exceedingly.— They succeeded in blowing her up. Two days afterwards, they made a general attack on the American lines with bombs, rockets and artillery, but after a fair experiment, they retired in the evening with considerable loss. On the 1st of January, having during the night erected batteries within a few hundred yards of the American