

NEW YORK CITY IS A GIBRALTAR

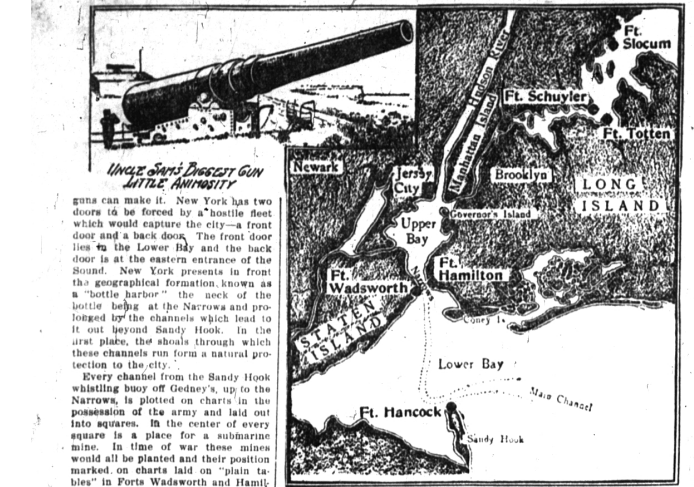
WONDERFUL MORTAR BATTERIES AT FORT HAMILTON AND SANDY HOOK, HIGH POWER, CAPABLE OF HEAVY GUN FORT WADSWORTH AND COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF SUBMARINE MINES. MAKE LOWER HARBOR IMPREGNABLE.

Not great port in the world is more strongly protected than New York. It is a matter of recent times. Not many years ago New York was badly defended, says the New York Press. Now it is as impregnable as modern fortifications and...

battery would be dropping shells upon their decks. From the sea all these batteries of the Hook are invisible, and with smokeless powder behind them an attempt to return the fire would be shooting by gunwork. If the hostile fleet was not annihilated by the time it got to the channel runs in close to the point of the Hook. It would then come under not only the guns of Fort Hancock, but the guns and mortars of Wadsworth and Hamilton. It is inconceivable that any fleet could stand the battering of these three great forts, delivered simultaneously. Exposed to the concentrated fire of batteries of the best type of eight-inch...

interested in subsequent events in the night. There is one little deep hole of the Coney Island shore—a cove—where a hostile man of war, were she so lucky as to get in there without running aground, might lie and reconnoiter. Her guns without having forced the batteries protecting the harbor. But a few mines operated from the beach would close this and mortar battery on Plum Island is planned to protect the place absolutely. In the opinion of many, such a battery is unnecessary. The back door of New York is Long Island Sound. Here the problem presented is different and more complicated than...

Map of New York Harbor, Showing the Six Great Forts That Guard its Northern and Southern Approaches.



guns can make it. New York has two doors to be forced by a hostile fleet which would capture the city—a front door and a back door. The front door lies to the Lower Bay and the back door is at the eastern entrance of the Sound. New York presents in front a geographical formation, known as a "bottle harbor," in which the bottle being at the Narrows and prolonged by the channels which lead to it beyond Sandy Hook. In the first place, the shoals through which these channels run form a natural protection to the city.

and ten-inch mortar, high-power guns mounted on disappearing carriages, and to three great mortar batteries, these fleets would have to wend its way slowly through channels from which the guiding buoys have been removed and other mine fields minutely controlled from a distance of sixteen miles from the time it first came upon the direct fire of the Sandy Hook batteries and it approached the Narrows, and the guns in the eight-inch battery high on the hill at Fort Wadsworth could plug holes in its decks. It is not to be imagined that any fleet would be rash enough to attempt to force the front door of New York, or attempting it, could survive. In this connection it is interesting to consider the question of fire-control. In these days the "man behind the gun" on land seldom sees what he is shooting at. The position of hostile vessels are determined by scientific, mechanical appliances very quickly, and most accurately. The man in charge of the central station of fire-control communicates the range and direction to the group commander, who communicates it to the gun captain, who raises their guns as directed to appear for a moment over the edge of the parapet, belch forth their

"defence of the front door—which is "dead easy." Here the entrance of the defenses of the city is pushed out to a point, and the batteries are placed in the front door, but for some distance of the Sound and to Narragansett Bay. Fisher's Island, lying in the jaws of the Sound, is heavily fortified, and the coast north of it, upon the heights of Watch Hill on the Rhode Island shore, are other batteries protecting the entrance through Fisher's Island Sound. To the south is a fort of little value, supporting the guns on Fisher's Island and pointing with those the entrance through the Race. To the eastward of these lie Narragansett Bay, which would present an enemy from landing there in the rear to take the Watch Hill fort in the rear by a swift march overland. But the Narragansett Bay are not strictly a part of the outer line of the defenses of the city. New York as are the Fisher's Island, Little Gull and Watch Hill.

This, in general terms, is the scheme of defense, and shows the guns and batteries of great mortars. But beside the shoals provided by nature and the submarine mines provided by man a hostile fleet must have the great batteries at Sandy Hook, Fort Wadsworth and Fort Hamilton to contend with. Soon after the

Supplementing the forts at the eastern entrance of the Sound, there are also, of course, the forts at the western end, which in time of war would be planted with submarine mines controlled and fired according to the latest and most accurate methods, which would themselves make the passage of the "arrow entrance to the Sound an interesting task for a hostile fleet. If any fleet were to attempt to force the defenses of New York's back door should be carried, there still remain the inner line of defenses which consists of the forts at David's Island, Fort Totten at Willet's Point and Fort Schuyler on the tip of the Rock Neck. These three forts, armed with heavy ordnance, including mortar batteries, would be able to get a converging fire upon any fleet which having surmounted the outer line of Fisher's Island, should come steaming down the Sound with hostile intent. And here again this hostile fleet would be passing over the mine field where the impudant submarine could be accurately exploded to their discomfort and destruction.

To get a clear view of the defenses of New York, a foreign enemy would, in the first place, probably have to whip a Yankee fleet. But as at present content the defenses are quite able to take care of themselves and leave the fleets of the country free to sail with any will. It is safe to say that no hostile fleet could stand off New York, and that no hostile fleet would attempt it. The city could only be taken after a long and bloody struggle by troops who had succeeded in forcing a landing at some unprotected point distant from the city.

of a hostile fleet appeared above the horizon they would be under the fire of the giant batteries at Sandy Hook. In fact, the great sixteen-inch gun there could make sighting shots to use as a lullaby, and from the horizon as to their hulls, taking "pot shots" by the ranges of their masts. In the time that they were in the entrance to Godfrey's Channel, the great guns of Fort Hancock would be playing upon them and the sixteen twelve-inch mortars of the mortar

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He Owned Straight Down

During the early conservation period of the Wachusett reservoir in the towns of Clinton, Boylston and West Boylston, the property owners, mostly farmers, protested quite earnestly against the right of the metropolitan water board to take their lands by "eminent domain" a power they never before heard of.

The Eye-Stone

When I was a boy we had the wish of every youngster to obtain from the head of the common freshwater drumfish one of the small calcareous discs to use as a totem. One day during this period of agitation a minister driving through the Nashua valley, the future site of the reservoir, came to a hill where in the view of the surrounding country could be had. Daniel Carville, a farmer, who for seventy years had lived in the region, inspected that the front part of the carriage was an official who was looking over his premises for the purpose of setting it later by eminent domain.

Eat in Privacy

Apparently our best chance of securing a long and healthy life is to eat once a day and wear as few clothes as possible. While, on the other hand, we have been told during the past week or so that a meal of the royal road to longevity, a well known doctor has been advocating that we eat a diet of clothes for dinner. Obviously our best course will be to take our food in the privacy of our own apartments, unless we are passing on a dining car table for us that can be so varied that it will run no risk of the monotony that kills. Not even additional food would be desirable for a woman to be continually dressed in the same style—Pittsburg Dispatch.

Wife of the Great Deized Mortars

At Fort Hamilton and Sandy Hook...

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