

Report of Thomas Sparrow, Captain
of the Washington Gray.

On Wednesday Aug: 28th at 10 o'clock A. M.
I embarked part of my command, consisting of
fifty seven privates, two corporals, two Lieutenants, &
four Commissioned Officers, (Sixty three in all),
at Portsmouth (Ocracoke Inlet) on the Schooner
Pantheon, for Hatteras.

Arrived at Hatteras Rhodes at 5 P. M. and
was furnished a pilot by Commander Nure
of the U. S. Steamer Beaufort. Landed my
command immediately under fire of
the enemy's guns, leaving on the Schooner
privates Edmund Hearney & H. Buckstaff as a
guard to detain her.

At 8 O'clock P. M. I detailed Lieut: James
J. Whitehurst & thirty of my command for
picket duty. Lieut Whitehurst had com-
mand of the entire guard, one hundred
in number. He discharged his duties with
fidelity, & returned with his guard without
accident to the fort just before daylight on
the following morning.

I was ordered early in the evening of
the 28th to procure detachments of men from
several companies, and transport the 10 inch

Columbiad from the shore to the fort, and to put it in position. I was engaged in the discharge of this duty with such slender appliances as the post afforded, when the order was countermanded by Major Andrews, the discovery having been made, that there were no ten inch shot nor shell.

Early on the morning of the 29th I was ordered to detail from my command four detachments of eight men each, and a gunner for each, to man two of the guns which commanded the Inlet. I performed this duty, appointing ^{John A.} Sergeant Potts, Corporal William W. Gordon, & privates Benjamin W. Lovell & William B. Willis gunners. I placed Lieut William Shaw in command of the first & second & Lieut. Anthony J. Thomas in command of the third & fourth detachments. (Mr. Gordon Corp^t was displaced & C. K. Ballaghan appointed Gunner in his place)

These detachments were on duty during the engagement, & behaved with great coolness, but were not ordered to fire, as the guns could not be brought to bear upon the enemy. Both guns were disabled. I feel called on to make special mention of private W^m B. Willis for his coolness & courage. He stood upon his gun giving notice of the enemy's shot & shells until ordered to leave, mounted

the traverse & struck the flag, which afforded a prominent mark for the enemy's guns. & was ready for any hazardous duty.

The following men were slightly wounded.

Lieut. William Shaw.

Privates. Edward B. Shaw.

" William H. Hearney.

" Gade R. Stallings

" Asa Waters

Privates Edward B. Shaw & William J. Pedrick made their escape to the steamers in the sound after the flag was raised, leaving as prisoners.

	Thomas Sparrow	Captain.
	William Shaw	1 st Lieut
	James J. Whitehurst	2 nd "
4	Anthony J. Thomas	3 rd "
	Thomas A. Robbins	1 st Lieutenant.
2	John A. Potts	2 nd "
	Harrison Hall	Corporal
2	William W. Gordon	" and
<u>55</u>	Privates	
63	Total Prisoners -	

Respectfully Submitted

T. Sparrow

Report of the
Sparrow. Capt.
Washington Hays
of his share in
the ^{Defense} of Fort
Hatteras. 1861
