

THE REBEL PIRATES; A Daring Adventure in Portland Harbor. The Revenue Cutter Caleb Cushing Cut Out by Men from the Pirate Tacony. Prompt Pursuit by Two Armed Packet Steamers. The Cushing Abandoned and Blown Up by Her Captors. The Rebels All Captured and Taken to Portland. Their Intention in Destroy Two Gunboats on the Works. Forty Sail of Vessels Destroyed by a Steamer off Cape Sable. OFFICIAL DISPATCH TO HON. S.P. CHASE IN REGARD TO THE REVENUE-CUTTER CALEB CUSHING.

Published: June 28, 1863

?? M. Saturday, ?? 27.

The United States ?? went to sea during ?? without orders of ?. Capt. CLARKE ?? yesterday and an office was expected on to ?? to-day.

The ?? and is heavily armed. ?? are being ?? send in ?? her.

?? Saturday June 27-1??M.

The ?? cutter ?? left last night ?? MERRIAM. sent to take charge of her arrived. He immediately started out in one of the ste?? sent in pursuit of the Cash??, which stea?? are now engaging her, she having ?? six guns at the steamers Chesapeake and Forest City.

The arrangement is still going on, as the guns can be ?? heard in the city.

PORTLAND, Saturday, June 27 -- 1 P.M.

The steamers Forest City and Chesapeake have ??hailed the cutter twelve miles down the Day, ?? we can hear heavy reports of guns occasiona?? It is hazy to see anything distinctly.

The ?? mounts a 32-pounder ?? gun, and a ?? gun.

We ?? graph the moment we get anything defined.

?? Saturday -- 2 P.M.

?? explosion and ?? was inst ?? the cutter was, and new ?? It is thought that the ??

?? Saturday June 27 ??? P.M.

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It reported that ???

???, Saturday June 27 -- ??? P.M.

The ??? to another and look in sails and ??? to be on are and at 20 minutes to 2??? she blew up with a tremendous report and not ??? of her is new visi??? from the observatory. ??? she was blown up by her crew. The ??? sin pursuit lay off some distance when she blew up.

PORTLAND, Saturday, June 27 -- 2 10 P.M.

The crew of the cutter ??? to have escaped before she was blown ??? boats -- probably to a schooner early -- is the ??? City chased and down toward ??? her, and is towing her up.

The ??? 12-pounders I understand and the ??? only pounders. But their ??? was to run the ??? down at once, as they were as ???

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In the ??? the Cushing was firing from her ??? She fired five shots at the ???, one at the which ??? her, and three at the ???

The ??? fired only one shot at the Cashing while fell short, but which, notwithstanding, was a beautiful line shot.

Of the three shots fired at the ???, two fell short, and one -- a round of grape -- went through her ???

The rebels seeing that the steathers were ready to board the Cashing at 12 o'clock abandoned her and went to a schooner near by, leaving the crew of the cutter in another boat, which was picked up by the ???

The rebels previous to abandoning the Cushing, set her on fire, and at 1:50 P.M., she blew up, making a tremendous report, as she had twenty-four hundred pounds of powder on board of her.

The Forest City then pursued the schooner and captured it.

The regular crew of the Cushing report that the ??? above mentioned came in yesterday after??? a detachment on board, composed of a ??? the pirate Florida's crew who had previ??? the schooner. This schooner the pirates then tent into our harbor to destroy the two gunboats building here. As a matter of course, the schooner came in this morning, and no one for a moment suspected that there were any rebels on board of her, but they were soon undeceived.

The first work of the schooner was to seize the Cushing and put her crew in irons, and then steal quietly off with her in the night -- taking her through the islands by the lower passage and into Hussey's Sound -- towing her out with two rowboats ahead, as the wind was very light at the time.

The rebels on leaving the Cushing, previous to blowing her up, threw the keys of the shackles they had placed on the wrists of the regular crew of the cutter to them in the boat.

The name of the rebel commander is said to be "REED."

The citizens who volunteered to retake the Cushing were under the command of FREDERICK HARRIS. The entire party are now marching up Exchange-street, greatly delighted at their success.

The schooner captured is the Archer. Twenty-two rebels were found on board of her.

The rebels intended to burn the two gunboats building here, but did not get the chance.

PORTLAND, Me., Saturday, June 27 -- 6 P.M.

Capt. JOHN J. LISCOMB, of the Forest City, says that she came within gunshot of the Cushing half an hour before the Chesapeake got along.

The Cushing fired at the Forest City six times without showing any flag whatever.

The Forest City then laid to, waiting for the Chesapeake to come up.

When the Chesapeake arrived, after consultation. It was agreed to board the Cushing.

The Chesapeake took the lead in this, being a protection and also being protected by cotton bales.

The rebels, perceiving the intentions of the Chesapeake and Forest City. ??? and abandoned the Cushing in ???, and sent off in a third ???oat the regular crew of the Cushing, who they had placed in ???. This last boat was almost immediately picked up by the Chesapeake.

The other two boats, with the rebels on board, steered for the Har???well shore, and were pursued and picked up by the F???st City. The rebels proved to be twenty-three in number.

The Forest City also picked up a small boat, containing a Mr. BIBBER, who had been set adrift from the Cushing. Mr. BIBBER, with his partner, were captured yesterday by the rebels, while in a small fishing boat off Damer's Cove Island.

Mr. BIBBER informed Capt. LISCOMB that he was captured by the schooner Archer, of Southport, which was in possession of a rebel crew from the pirate Taconu, not from the Florida, as reported by the crew of the Caleb Cushing, and that the Archer came in Last night, and anchored below Mino???, intending to burn the two new gunboats building in Portland, and cut out the revenue cutter Cushing and steamer Forest City. This they found themselves very much troubled to do, but at 2 o'clock this morning they boarded the Cushing quietly, and seized the small portion of her crew aboard, put them in irons, and made their way out of the harbor through Hussey's Sound, thus avoiding the fire of the forts.

After passing the Forts, Capt. LISCOMB learned the intentions of the rebels, and immediately pursued the Archer, which was making her way to the eastward as rapidly as the light breeze would permit.

Capt. LISCOMB captured the Archer and found three rebels and Mr. BIBBER's partner on board, and towed her up to the city.

By Mr. BIBBER's report, Capt. LISCOMB thinks that there are three or more schooners with rebel crews on board, on our coast, destroying our fishermen.

The Archer had only a howitzer on board, and these schemers are probably lightly armed.

Mr. BI???EE also reports a rebel steamer on the coast, and the Forest City passed a suspicious looking black steamer off Cape Porpoise, at 2 o'clock this morning, when coming from Boston, which at first made for the Forest City, but afterward kept to the South-west.

The Forest City arrived up about half-past four ??? this afternoon, landing the rebel prisoners at Fort Preble.

The ??? City as well as the Chesapeake was received with the greatest enthusiasm by the citizens.

The Forest City was armed with two rifled twelve-pounders, and had on board thirty troops from Fort Preble, and one hundred armed citizens.

The Forest City did not get near enough to the Cushing to hit her, and the shots from the latter, though coming very close, fell a little short.

The Forest City, and the Chesapeake, would have undoubtedly recaptured the Cushing had not the rebels deserted her and blown her up, as the soldiers, citizens and sailors, were all anxious to have a hand-to-hand fight, as they had nothing to match the big gun of the Cushing.

The promptitude with which Collector JEWETT, Mayor MCCLELLAN and the citizens armed and dispatched two packet steamers to capture the rebels, has proved most fortunate.

Many believed this morning that the whole story about the seizure of the Cushing was a joke, and that she had only gone off slyly on a cruise, through the vagaries of the Lieutenant commanding her; but in less than two hours the Forest City and Chesapeake were dispatched with as many armed citizens as they could accommodate, and then the people began to believe there was some truth in the story, and that it was no false and foolish alarm.

PORTLAND, Saturday, June 27 -- 8 o'clock P.M.

Your reporter has just come from Fort Preble. The Commandant there will not allow the prisoners ???ioned to-night.

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The Commandant of the Fort informed me, that it ??? from a memorandum that Lieut. REED and his crew went aboard the Tacony about the 11th of May. On the morning of the 25th of June he seems to have burned the Tacony and gone on board the ???ooner Archer.

Lieut. REED's last memorandum says: "It is my intention to go along the coast with the view of burning the shipping in some exposed harbor or cutting out some steamer."

A police force went to Fort Preble this evening to demand the prisoners in behalf of the civil authorities, but the Commandant stated that he should hold them as prisoners of war, subject to the commands of the War Department.

It is reported by the regular crew of the Cushing that a boat's new of ten men escaped from her this morning. If this is so, they may seize some other schooner and make mere trouble. A patrol force will be stationed in the harbor forthwith.

The pirates could find only a few round shots aboard the Cushing, and therefore fired grape after the first few rounds. If they had known how feebly the Chesapeake and Forest City were armed they could have sunk them, but the determined course of the steamers made the pirates think they were over-matched.

Capt. LEIGHTON, who led the attack in the Chesapeake, informs me that he intended to have run the Cushing down by superior weight; or that failing, to take her by boarding her with superior numbers, which the grapeshot of the rebels would have made rather a dangerous proceeding.

PORTLAND, Saturday, June 27 -- 9 P.M.

We glean the following further particulars of the Caleb Cushing affair from the extra Courier:

"Just before the ??? exploded three volunteers. Mr. HAIL, reporter for the Argus, Capt. WARREN of the Seventh Maine regiment, and Mr. EDWARD FICKETT took the Chesapeake's boat and rowed to the cutter -- but they had only time enough to cut their boat away from her stern when she exploded.

The regular crew of the Cushing have been put in confinement, to await an examination.

Lieut. DIVENPORT states that between 12 and 1 o'clock last night some suspicious-looking men, dressed as fishermen, came on board the cutter, and, hearing an unusual noise, he went up on deck to see what was the matter, when he was immediately seized by five armed men, who pointed their pistols at him, and said they belonged to the Confederate navy. Finding that resistance was useless, he surrendered, and was put in irons with all his men. The cutter then proceeded down the harbor.

Both Lieut. REED and Engineer BROWN styled themselves as officers of the Confederate steamer Florida, and said that she was in the offing.

The cutter's crew refused to tell where the ammunition was put, and this, with the want of a favorable wind, induced she rebels to burn the cutter.

PORTLAND, Saturday, June 27 -- 10 P.M.

Lieut. REED, Commander of the rebel crew, is reported to have said that he was well acquainted with this harbor, and knew where to put his hands on everything. He intended, if the wind had been fair, to burn all the shipping in port, and to seize the Forest City and cruise along the coast, burning and destroying all the vessels that came in his path. His logbook states that he burned the Tacouy, of which he was commander, finding that vessels of the Federal Government were after him.

PORTLAND, Me., June 27.

Hon S.P. Chase Secretary of Treasury, Washington:

The party which cut out the cutter Cushing were part of the crew of the bark Tacony, which vessel, as appears by her log-book in my possession, they burned June 25, and transferred her armament to the sc??ner Archer, which we have captured and stripped. They intended to burn the two gunboats here, transfer the Archer's armament to the cutter, and burn and destroy vessels on the coast of Maine. The men are in Fort Preble under guard. Lieut. C.W. REED, of the Confederate Navy, was in command of the men, and is a prisoner.

J. JEWETT, Collector.

OFFICIAL DISPATCH TO HON. E.M. STANTON.

FORT PREBLE, Me., June 27, 1873 -- 6:40 P.M.

Hon. E.M. Stanton Secretary of War, Washington:

In the private note-book of Lieut. C.W. READ, C.S.N., I find as follows:

"The latest news from Yankeedom tell us that there are over twenty gunboats in search of us. They have a description of the Tacony, and overhaul every vessel that resembles her. During the night we transferred all our things on board the schooner Archer. At 2 A.M. we set fire to the Tacony and stood west. The Archer is a fishing vessel of ninety tons; sails well and is easily handled. No Yankee gunboat would ever discover or suspect us. I therefore think we will dodge our pursuers for a sho??? time. It is my intention to go along the coast with the view of burning the shipping in some exposed harbor and of cutting out a steamer."

The above appears to have been written since the night of June 24.

The schooner taken to-day is the Archer, of Southport. GEORGE L. ANDREWS.

Major of 17th Infantry Commanding the Post.