

to the great Spirit for, and
give our blessing to your Father
and to you and tell him we
will fight bravely under his
colors

nearest the muzzle is by the application of a Lock-
fire off first, when the next Ball being perforated
through and charged with melted (tin) powder
well rammed, instantly communicates the fire
to the next charge and so on successively till it is
stopped by the wadding on the ball which is
kept as a reserve. I have seen a firelock
with 25 loads in her at once and fired off one after
the other. I have also seen seven barrels bound
together and mounted as a Squirrel, the whole loaded
and fired off 175 shot by quick succession, a person
having hold of the tail of the Squirrel and revolving
the same all round. The above instruments
have been since they last used on board the
American Men of War, and in their fortified
places for the destruction of masonry at the affair of
Cairo they were used first, afterwards with
Macomb against General Proast at Plattsburgh
and at New Orleans. Their effects can be better
comprehended than described & the American
Government have been so very secret in this business
that few but Native Trusty Officers have any knowledge
of them

