

our men could have shown more zeal on the occasion
than those composing the army and if they committed
any errors which gave rise to confusion they proceeded
from an over desire to injure the Enemy - of the
conduct of the sailors and marines I deem it unne-
cessary to say any thing. Their conduct on all such
occasions has ever been uniform. The evening of
our arrival two eighteen pounders reached our
position and next morning one of the Enemies
Bomb Ships and two barges, one carrying a long
two and thirty the other a mortar commenced
their operations on us, the first throwing shells in
~~front~~ ^{front} beyond the reach of our shot. The other
flanking us on our right - several shells fell
near and burst over our battery and although
the firing lasted all day without intermission
it had no other effect than to accustom the
militia to the danger. In the afternoon
I took an Eighteen pounder to a more advanced
point about a mile distance and commenced
a fire on the Bomb Ship which did so much
execution as to draw on me the fire of all their
Vessels including a Schooner and an Eighteen
Pound Barge which had dropped down that day,
on the 3^d the Enemy was reinforced from above
by another bomb ship and a Sloop of War
fired up as a rocket ship. The latter anchoring
within reach of our battery we were enabled
to play on her to great effect and compelled