

the defense of the cup she had originally won; she had won it against a fleet, and now in 1870 a fleet was to be sent out to defend it against the British challenger Cambria. In the race the America beat the Cambria, but herself was beaten by three other American yachts—the Magic, the Idler, and the Silvie. The America then returned to Annapolis and resumed her position as a training ship. In 1873 she was condemned by the Government and sold to Gen. B. F. Butler.

Second Federal Occupation

Following the first Federal occupation Jacksonville was not regularly occupied by Confederate troops. Confederate detachments occasionally came into town, however, just to see how things were getting along, but after a short time withdrew.

In the summer of 1862, batteries were erected by the Confederates on the St. Johns River below Jacksonville, at Yellow Bluff and St. Johns Bluff, on opposite sides of the river. For some time these batteries kept the Federal squadron, comprising the gunboats Paul Jones, Cimarron, Water Witch, Hale, Uncas, and Patroon, from coming up the river. The ineffectual effort of the gunboats to reduce these batteries, resulted in an expedition of four transports, carrying 1,573 men, which left Hilton Head, S. C., on September 30th, for the purpose of co-operating with the fleet. This expedition landed near Mayport Mills during the afternoon and evening of October 1st.

Colonel C. F. Hopkins, commanding the battery at St. Johns Bluff immediately requested reinforcements, and the garrison at Yellow Bluff crossed over to reinforce him, bringing his available force up to about 500 men. The next day the Federal forces, increased by men from the gunboats, began a movement by land against St. Johns Bluff, the fleet co-operating with the land forces. Late that afternoon, Colonel Hopkins had a conference with his officers, at which it was decided that his force was insufficient to hold the position. It was therefore quietly abandoned at 9 p. m., October 2d. All the guns and a considerable amount of ammunition fell into the hands of the Federal forces.

On October 3d, the Paul Jones steamed up to Jacksonville, for the purpose of destroying all boats and otherwise intercepting the passage of the Confederate troops across the