

FORT ADAMS.—From the Report of the Chief Engineer, Col. JOSEPH G. Totten, we extract the following respecting the present state and progress of the Fortifications at this place.

FORT ADAMS, NEWPORT HARBOR, RHODE ISLAND—Excavation and embankment.—The excavations of the earth and rock in all the ditches of the fort are finished, and nearly all the excavation for the parade; such portions of the excavated stone as were suitable having been applied to the masonry of the fort; the exterior and interior ditches of the redoubt being almost wholly in rock, have been excavated, affording most of the common building stones for the fort during the last six years; the excavations and embankments of the communication from the fort to the redoubt are finished.

The glacis of the main work, and of three faces of the redoubt are nearly finished. The embankments of four fronts of the main work, and of the two exterior fronts; of both tenailles and of the parapets of three faces of the redoubt, are finished. The terrepleins of the covert way of the southwest and southeast fronts are completed.

MASONRY.—*North front.*—The entire scarp is completed; all the arches turned, roofed, leaded, and covered with earth; the breast-height walls of the covert way, the sustaining walls of the glacis and the gateway walls built.

All the gun embrasures of the fort (104 in number), and all the carronade embrasures (67 in number), are built.

Four of the casemates intended for quarters and three intended for officers, have been fitted up, and some progress has been made in preparing several others.

The walls under water of permanent wharf are finished and enclosed space filled up to low water. All the walls (2,850 feet in length) of the communication from the fort to the redoubt are finished.

Of the redoubt, the scarp walls of three faces are finished and some progress made in the counterscarp walls; the gallery passing under the ditch is finished, together with the foundation of the scarp of the interior work.

The three principal magazines and seven small ones are floored and lined and require but little work for entire completion.

The platforms for all the guns in the lower tier of the west and north fronts are ready to receive the armament, (fifty-nine 42-pounder cannon and nine 24-pounder carronades.) A few guns, being all that are at the fort, are already mounted.

East front.—The scarp and counter-scarp are finished; all the arches turned, roofed, leaded, and covered with earth; the walls of the caponière, of the two ramps, of the casemated traverse and its counterscarp are done; the parade wall finished and the breast-height walls of the covert way, except those of the re-entering place of arms.

Southeast exterior front.—Except the breast-height walls, all the masonry of this front, tenaille, caponiere and covert way included, is done.

Southeast interior front.—Masonry all completed, with the exception of breast-height walls, and a gap left for communication.

Southwest exterior front.—Except the breast-height walls, masonry all completed.

Southwest interior front.—Masonry all completed excepting the breast-height walls.

West front.—Masonry all completed except the galley of 2d tier, the walls closing the ditches and the pintle centres and traverse circles of the barbette guns; the earth covering of the arches will be completed before the expiration of the quarter.

All the galleries for communication and for countermines are finished; their length is 2,869 feet.

Between 3,000 and 4,000 feet of permanent clear drains have been laid, and 2,250 feet of blind drains.