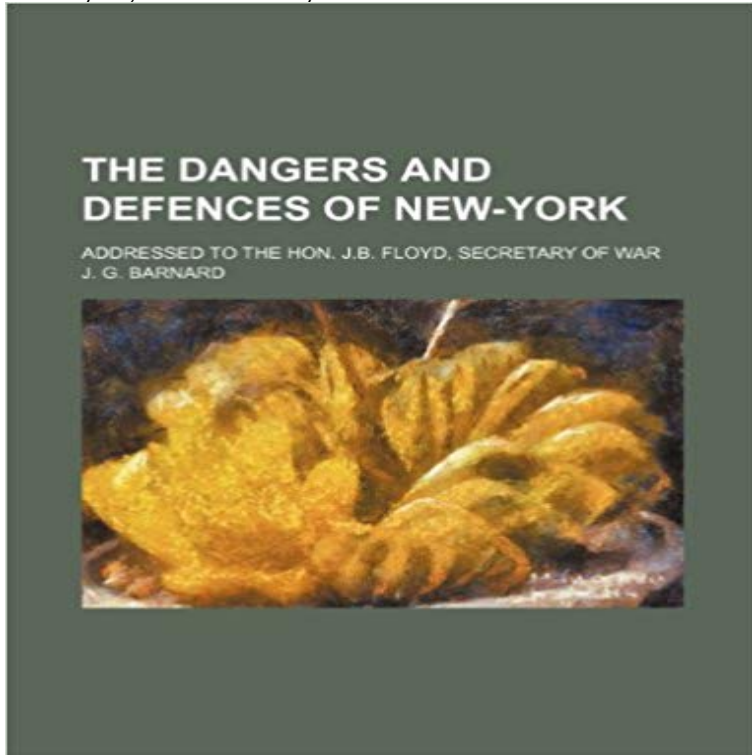


The Dangers and Defences of New-York; addressed to the Hon. J.B. Floyd, secretary of war



This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1859 Excerpt: ...60 cwt., with hollow shot of 56 lbs.), did but little injury to the work. At 480 yards, 250 shot, shells, and hollow shot were fired. A small breach was formed in the facing of the outer wall, of extremely bad masonry, and considerable damage done to the embrasures and other portions of the wall; but no decisive result was obtained--no practicable breach formed, by which the work might be assaulted, taken, and effectually destroyed, although 640 shot and shells (40,000 lbs. of metal) were fired into the place, first at 1,060, and then at 480 yards. Truly, if floating batteries can do no better than this when they have it all their own way, I think we need not be in very great apprehension for (even) our isolated forts, which Grivel seems to think (and Lieutenant Morton quotes his opinion) cannot long resist an attack properly conducted, however solidly constructed they may be. (The italics are mine.) The harbor defenses of Sebastapol were very fair specimens of Bussian masonry-casemated works, and are types of the same class of works built in this country; though the material of which they were built was very inferior, and they were in many very important details (as I shall show hereafter), particularly embrasures, vastly inferior to our oldest specimens, and not to be compared at all with those built by us in the last few years. The Naval Cannonade of these works on the 17th October, 1854, might be expected to throw some light upon the relative powers and liabilities to injury of the two characters of armaments here opposed. But such is not the case. The Russian works were not armed with the powerful sea-coast guns now deemed essen...

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