

480 OFFICIAL REPORTS OF BATTLES. Letter of Brig.-Gen. Isaac I. Stevens commanding Federal forces. HEAD-QUARTERS 2D DIVISION, N. D. D. S., JAMES ISLAND, S. C., June 18, 1862. To the Commanding General of the Confederate Forces on James Island, S. C.: SIR: —In the action of the 16th it is known that some of our dead, and, it is probable, that a few of our wounded were left at, or in rear of, your works. In compliance with the urgent wishes of friends, and in accordance with my own convictions of propriety and of duty, I have determined to send a flag of truce to ascertain the names of the killed and of the wounded, and, if practicable, to recover the bodies of the dead. It will be ever my determination to conform, in the most ample manner, to the usages of civilized and Christian warfare, and I have seen to it that all of your men, who are now prisoners in our hands, have been treated with courtesy and respect. I am glad to learn that, on your part, the same course has been taken towards the prisoners recently taken by you. The bearers of the flag of truce I now send to you are my division Surgeon, Dr. George S. Kimble, and my aid-de-camp, Capt. Win. T. Lusk, and I trust you will find it consistent with your duty to extend to them every proper facility to procure information in regard to their missing comrades, and, if possible, to recover the remains of the dead. We shall be glad to send money and clothing to our prisoners in your hands, and in return will see that articles of necessity and comforts, which their friends desire to send, safely reach your men, prisoners with us. I am, sir, very respectfully, Your obedient servant, ISAAC I. STEVENS, Brig.-Gen. commanding.

481 OFFICIAL REPORTS OF BATTLES. Reply of Brig.-General N. G. Evans. HEAD-QUARTERS JAMES ISLAND, June 18, 1862. Brig.-Gen. STEVENS, Commanding Federal Forces, &c.: GENERAL:-Your communication, through a flag of truce, borne by Dr. Geo. S. Kimble and Capt. Wm. T. Lusk, has just been received, and, in reply thereto, I have the honor to state that the information desired as to the names and condition of your wounded, in the engagement of the 16th instant, will be cheerfully furnished you at an early hour. The wounded having been sent to the city of Charleston, it is necessary to communicate with that place first. **I have also to state that your dead, as far as found, have been decently interred.** It has ever been the custom of our armies to conform to the "...usages of civilized and Christian warfare," and our wounded and prisoners have been, and are being, well cared for in all respects. I send this by my aid-de-camp, Capt. W. H. Rodgers. Very respectfully, your obedient servant, N. G. EVANS, Brig.-Gen. commanding Confederate Forces.