

19 September 1863, 2

Negro Soldiers at Charleston.—We are permitted to make the following extract from a letter written by an officer before Charleston.—*Buffalo Courier.*

“Gen. Gillmore was undoubtedly forced into the assault upon Fort Wagner against his better judgment. I have great confidence in him, and think from the way he is going to work now that Charleston will certainly fall. It will be slow but sure. He has set all the negro soldiers at fatigue work, which is what every other General ought to do. The stories about their splendid fighting are ‘fall in my eye.’ At the assault they ran away as fast as they could, and come near demoralizing the whole attacking force. In an hour after the fight commenced over a thousand of them came straggling down to the South end of the Island, and before morning there were at the hospital and dock over three hundred of them, not hurt in the least. There were not a dozen white soldiers at the dock. I see the New York papers give them credit for doing wonders—don’t you believe it.”
