Colonel Bailey's wonderful dam—which, according to Admiral Porter, no private company would have complete within a year. Bailey's men died it in eleven days and saved a fleet of Iruon vessels worth 34,000. Never was there an instance where such difficulties were overcome so quickly and with so little preparation. The current of the Ired River, rushing by at the rate of nine miles an hour, threatened to sweep away the work of the soldiers as fast as it was performed. The work was commenced by building out from the left bank of the river with large trees cross-tied with heavy timber and filled in with brush, brick, and stone. We see the men engaged upon this work at the right of the picture. Cañon barges filled with brick and stone were sunk beyond this, while from the right bank cribs filled with stone were built out to meet the barges. In eight days Bailey's men, working like heavers under the broiling sun, had backed up the current sufficiently to release three vessels. The very next