1813, December 26

Statement by THEO WELL AUEN,

Norfolk, re. the attack on
Cromley Island by the British
on 22 June, 1813.
I was on Ganey Island during the attack of the British on that Post on the morning of the 22nd of June, and had been there for many weeks before carrying on the Works in the Engineer department, under the direction of Lieut. Colbourn instead of that Corps. On the 20th of June when the attack was made by the Gun Bats on the British Batteries in Hampton Roads, there were on the Island four Six-Pounders set for duty, (which had been sent down with the Troops to cover the working party) and also Five Twenty-four Pounds mounted on the flank Battery on Field carriages.

On the 22nd of June when the attack was made on the Island there were two more pieces mounted on the Main Battery (a Twenty-four and an Eighteen Pounder). The Main Battery was designed solely to cover the Channel and cannot act on the Land side. Perceiving the Enemy to land a short above the Island, Two of the Twenty-four Pounds were removed in the morning of the 22nd from the Main Battery to the opposite end of the Island and were then afterwards employed against the Enemy's Bats and Land Troops. There was no platform for them and they lay on the ground, and no Parapet or other covering for them, other
than a Bank hastily thrown up at that end to cover the mistery.

The two twenty-fours on the Main Battery on the 26th had been put up after the arrival of the British Squadron in Hampton Roads by extraordinary exertions and worked till eleven at night of the 27th of June.

During the day two twenty fours came down, but too late to be used in the action.

Norfolk Dec. 26th 1813

Tho. Williams Enr.