

## The War Fifty Years Ago

**Ineffectual Attempt to Capture Port Hudson, La.—Federal Columns In General N. P. Banks' Army of the Gulf Storm the Breastworks—Confederate Batteries Hurl Scrap Iron and Rusty Nails at the Assaultants. General Thomas W. Sherman Rides at Head of Column Up to the Enemy's Abatis—He Is Shot From the Saddle—First Fight of Negro Troops—The Assault a Failure—Novel Election in Virginia—"Extra Billy" Smith, Governor of the Old State.**

By Capt. GEORGE L. KILMER, Late U. S. V.  
**M**AY 27, fifty years ago, turned out a red day in the history of General N. P. Banks' Army of the Gulf. After looking the ground over for some days and reaching the conclusion that the task was hopeless the troops were sent forward to storm the Confederate works at Port Hudson, on the Mississippi, in the style artists delight to portray. The plan called for a grand simultaneous assault by four divisions, but when the hour came the left column, led by General Thomas W. Sherman, had not formed its lines. Banks rode to Sherman's bivouac in a high temper and found Sherman calmly taking lunch with his officers. Hot words followed, and Banks rode back to headquarters, sending his chief of staff to

bags of cotton and fascines to fill the ditch in advance of the main column.

### Scrap Iron Used as Canister.

Colonel Chapin's own regiment, the One Hundred and Sixteenth New York, held the right of the line, with the Forty-eighth Massachusetts on the left. These were supported by the Forty-ninth Massachusetts, the Second Louisiana and the reserves of the Twenty-first Maine. An eyewitness, Colonel R. B. Irwin of General Banks' staff, thus describes Chapin's charge:

"O'Brien shook hands with the officer who brought him the last order and, turning to his men, who were lying or sitting near by, some on their cotton bags, others on the ground, said in the coolest and most businesslike manner, 'Pick up your bundles and come on.'

about 200 yards from the main point selected for attack.

As the infantry advanced the pioneers opened the roads, and five batteries were hauled to the crest. Some of the regiments took an hour to move half a mile. So thick was the brush that men could see only a few feet, and at one point a Confederate officer and his skirmishing party were surprised and captured in a ravine before they were aware that the Federals were coming.

Weitzel's attack began early in the morning, and after it had spent its main strength an attempt was made on the extreme right to force the Confederate lines near the river. Two colored regiments of Louisiana negroes lined up in front of a rugged bluff which projected boldly from the main height, forming a natural bastion with perpendicular sides and inaccessible except by a narrow road winding along its base. The ridge was held by Colonel Shelby's Mississippi regiment, aided by six field guns and two column-bands firing eight inch and ten inch shrapnel.

### First Fight of Negro Troops.

When the head of column of negroes reached the foot of the hill, Shelby's men opened up on them with musketry from the rifle pits on the crest. The negroes pressed gallantly on and soon got within range of the field guns, which raked the line with shell and shrapnel. Still struggling on, they came under the enfilade fire of the columbiads. Pushing into the narrow gorge leading up the hill, the foremost negroes were within 200 yards of the top when all the guns bearing upon their course began belching canister. Courage against canister is like a broom against the ocean. Blood and bones cannot stand it. The leading regiment fell back in disorder and struck the one following at the base of the hill. Both regiments rallied under cover and reformed for a second charge.

Confederate bullets, shrapnel, canister and scrap iron did not fly wild at Port Hudson, notwithstanding the irregularity and confusion of the lines. Over 100 Federal officers, including two generals and nine colonels, were shot down and nearly 2,000 soldiers in the ranks killed and wounded. The Confederate loss was comparatively light, probably less than 300, although Banks' guns bombarded the works at intervals, beginning at daylight.

Banks went into the movement against Port Hudson in the belief that General Grant would send help from the large army operating around Vicksburg. This help was ordered from Washington, but the dispatch didn't reach Grant until his troops were in battle near Vicksburg the 17th of May. It required him to abandon the Vicksburg campaign, but he had already half won the game and declined to give up. Having failed to carry the Confederate works by storm, Banks entered upon a siege which finally ended in the surrender of Port Hudson.

### Triple Election in Virginia.

Fifty years ago, May 28, three state elections were held in Virginia, one under Confederate auspices and two in sections which supported the union. "General" William or "Extra Billy" Smith was elected governor of the Confederate "state" to succeed the noted John Letcher.

Smith was a military and political character, of a type new to the conservative south. He received a classical education in Virginia and began the practice of law. Joining his fortunes with those of Andrew Jackson, he made fame as a public speaker.

Smith served as state senator and congressman in Jackson's days and



GENERAL WILLIAM ("EXTRA BILLY") SMITH, C. S. A., GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

one morning in 1845 woke up to find that he was governor of the state. The legislature had elected him to the executive chair, and some enemy of his promptly had the power of electing a governor taken from that body.

The gold fever attracted Smith to California at the expiration of his term as governor, but he soon returned, and the outbreak of the civil war found him back in the Old Dominion. He soon took the field as colonel of the Forty-ninth Virginia infantry. He was a gallant fighter and won a brigadier generalship before the people of the Confederate state elected him governor.

The unique nickname "Extra Billy" was a survival of General Smith's first business enterprise. He became a heavy contractor for carrying United States mails by post coaches running from Virginia all the way to Georgia. The routes lay through North and South Carolina, and the contractor of tea asked for and invariably received compensation not specified in the contract and known as "extras."

## WILY WOMAN WON

**She Made Up Her Mind to Get That News, and She Got It.**

In clearing the ground for some improvements in Potomac park in Washington the contractor some time ago removed a stone that for nearly a century was a quaint landmark in the national capital. It is called the "Anne Royall stone" and lay on the bank of the river just opposite the White House, about twenty feet back from the water's edge, at the top of a grass covered knoll.

It was on this stone that Anne Royall sat when she had her famous interview with President John Quincy Adams—at least, so runs the story that has been handed down for three generations by the inhabitants of Washington.

And, according to that story, it would appear that the good lady for whom the stone was named was not only a person of energy, but was endowed with considerable firm determination as well. She evidently had a good strong will of her own and when these two started to work in concert in deadly earnest results were bound to follow. Whether the good lady's sense of humor was cramped or extensive the reader must determine for himself.

Anne Royall was in a sort of the mother of modern journalism. She was the originator of the "Interview." She first, in the little sheet that she published in Washington in the second and third decades of the last century, departed from the dry forms that had always characterized newspapers.

She did not confine herself to a mere summary of current happenings, even spiced with careful essays on abstract subjects, after the manner of Steele or Addison. She struck firmly the "personal note." She wrote and printed things about public men as they were in their daily lives—an innovation the startling effect of which we cannot realize today. Her paper was called the Washington Paul Pry and afterward the Huntress.

During the administration of John Quincy Adams congress passed a certain bill, the signing or veto of which by the president was a matter of intense public interest. In those days the interview of the president by a newspaper man was unheard of, and no one had the temerity to ask Mr. Adams what he would do in the matter. But there was one exception among the timorous journalists of that day. It was Anne Royall. She dared to apply at the White House for a conference with the president, the avowed object of which was to learn from him his intentions concerning the bill.

Poor Anne, however, was kept at a discouraging distance. Day after day she waited, but she was not to be followed by her attendants. But she did not grow discouraged. She learned that every morning immediately after rising, the president walked to the bank of the Potomac, some half a mile in the rear of the White House, and there, after taking off his clothes, plunged into the stream for a swim.

One morning when the president, after swimming far out into the stream, turned to make his way back toward the shore he was astonished to see, sitting upon his clothing, which he had left upon a stone on the bank, a spectacled female with a look of great determination. It was Anne Royall, and beside her was a pen and bottle of ink, and in her hand was a sheet of paper.

"Woman, depart!" spluttered the president as he swam up into the shallows where he could touch the bottom at a toot.

"You know who I am, Mr. President," said the woman, "and you know what I want. I'm going to sit here until you tell me what you intend doing with that Cherokee Indian bill."

"Go away, woman!" shouted the president. "This is scandalous!"

"It's scandalous," Anne is reported to have said, "that the people of a free country have to resort to such extreme measures to find out what their servants are going to do. You give me the information that I am entitled to; then I'll give you your clothes. Otherwise I'll stay here—and you'll stay there."

There was only one outcome to such a struggle. The shivering president told Anne what he expected to do and why he would do it. Then, and until then, did Anne, armed with copious notes, rise from the stone that she had made famous and hasten to her little printing office, where she lost no time in getting that first and most famous presidential interview into print—"Youth's Companion."

**They Didn't Like Razors.**  
 Said Daniel Webster:—"The razor! It has taught me to curse. It has cost me more time and more trouble than all my speeches."

Rufus Choate, the lawyer, called the razor an instrument invented by Lucifer to fill up hell with barbers.

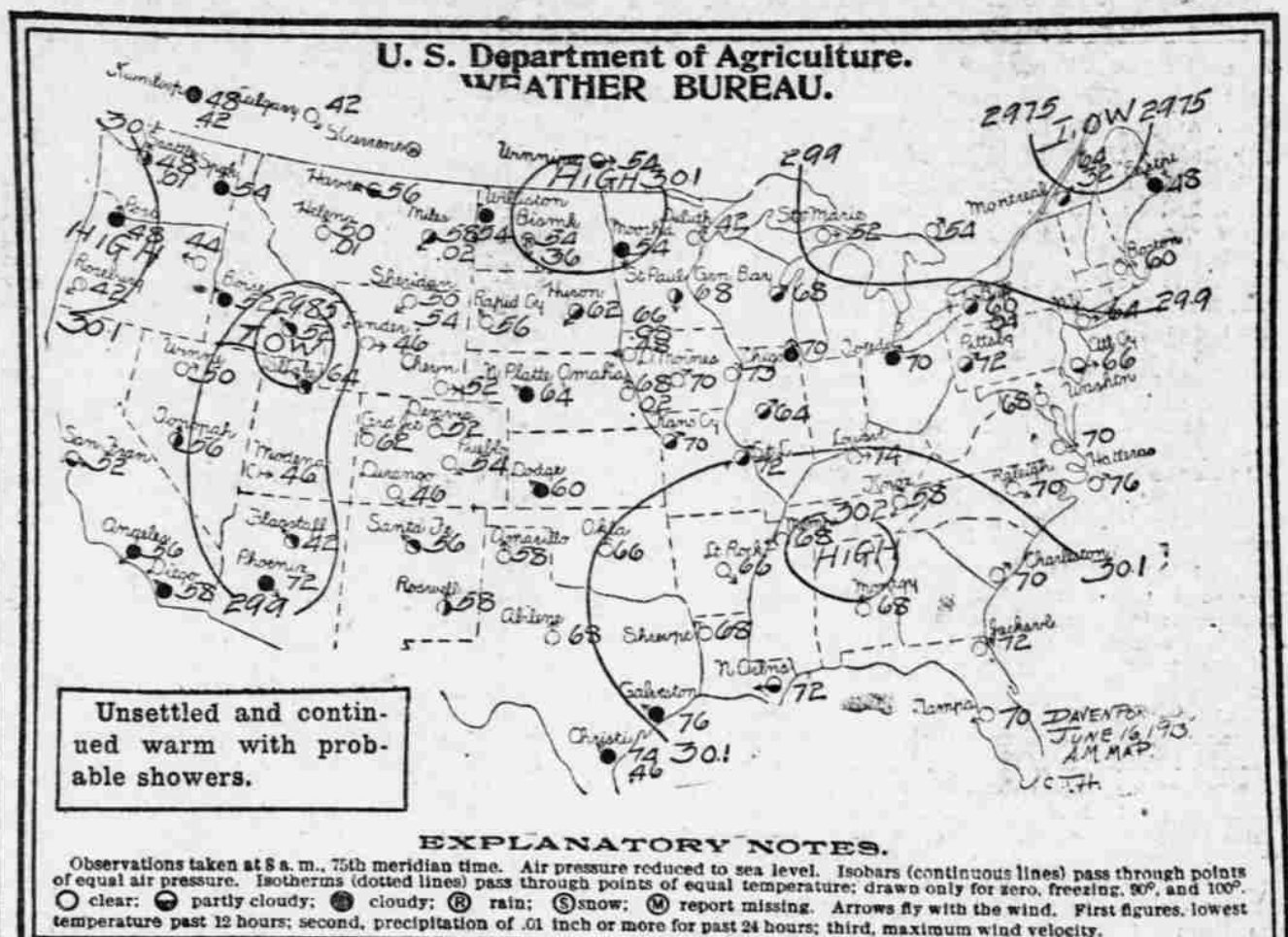
Edward Everett never used profane language, but before shaving he would invariably give vent to all sorts of French barbarisms.

**The Retort.**  
 Here is a retort which a "dull student" once made: Professor—"You seem to be very dull. When Alexander the Great was your age he had already conquered the world. Student—"Well, you see, he had Aristotle for a teacher."—Chambers' Journal.

**Missed Vacation.**  
 Client—"Didn't you make a mistake in going into law instead of the army? Lawyer—"Why? Client—"By the way you charge there would be little left of the enemy."—London Tit-Bits.

**Practice.**  
 "I could hold your hand forever," he exclaimed rapturously.  
 "If you did," she replied calmly, "you might learn how."—Life.

## Daily United States Weather Map



### WEATHER CONDITIONS.

Showers and occasional thunderstorms in the southern portion of the lake region and in the St. Lawrence valley and northern New England have resulted from the northwestern area of low pressure which has moved eastward to the province of Quebec. This disturbance has also been attended by high temperatures from the Mississippi and lower Missouri valleys to the Atlantic coast. Another low which overlies the Rocky mountain plateau has been accompanied by thunderstorms in the upper Missouri valley and the northern Rocky mountain sections and by showers on the north Pacific coast. The pressure remains moderately high in the lower Mississippi valley and on the north Pacific coast, and another high, accompanied by cooler weather, is central over North Dakota. This distribution of air pressure will probably be attended by thundershowers in this vicinity tonight or Tuesday.

### OBSERVATIONS.

	High.	Low.	Prep.
Atlantic City	74	66	.00
Boston	74	60	.00
Buffalo	76	60	.04
Rock Island	70	73	.00
Denver	92	52	.00
Jacksonville	94	70	.00
Kansas City	94	70	.00
New Orleans	84	72	.00
New York	80	64	.00
Norfolk	92	70	.00
Phoenix	98	72	.00
St. Louis	94	72	.00
St. Paul	96	68	.00
San Diego	68	58	.00
San Francisco	60	52	.00

### MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

	Flood.	Height.	Chng.
St. Paul	14	1.7	-.04
Red Wing	14	3.4	-.03
Reed's Landing	12	3.7	-.02
La Crosse	12	4.1	-.03
Lansing	18	5.0	-.03
Prairie du Chien	18	5.9	-.02
Dubuque	18	7.0	-.02
Le Claire	10	3.6	-.04
Rock Island	15	5.9	-.07

### RIVER FORECAST.

Slowly falling stages in the Mississippi will prevail from below Dubuque to Muscatine.  
 J. M. SHERIER, Local Forecaster.

## Today's Market Quotations

### CHICAGO MARKETS.

(By Associated Press.)  
 Cattle 18,000; strong to 10c higher. Beef 7.35@9.10; stockers and feeders 6.40@8.30; cows and heifers 3.90@8.50; calves 7.75@10.75.  
 Hogs 48,000; weak, 5c under Saturday's average. Bulk 8.70@8.80; light 8.00@8.50; mixed 8.50@8.87; heavy 8.25@8.77.  
 Sheep 24,000; slow, 15c lower; 5.00@5.10.  
 Hog prices weakened as result of a run today, being larger than the trade expected. Intense heat caused heavy mortality among animals in transit.  
 Cattle—Only moderate supply. Owing to the heat, however, buyers holding off awaiting a "shrink."  
 In sheep trade, bulk of offerings consisted of natives, too heavy to be good sellers.

### Chicago Cash Grain.

Wheat—No. 2 red, 102@106; No. 3 red, 96@100; No. 2 hard, 94@95; No. 3 hard, 92@94.  
 Corn—No. 2, 62@62½; No. 2 white, 62½@63; No. 2 yellow, 62@62½; No. 3, 61½@62; No. 3 white, 62@62½; No. 3 yellow, 62@62½.  
 Oats—No. 2 white, 42½@43; No. 3, 39½@40; No. 3 white, 40½@41½; standard, 41½@42½.  
 July wheat opened 92½@92½½ closed 92½@93½.  
 Corn opened 61½@62½; closed 62½.  
 Oats opened 41½@42½; closed 42½.  
 Pork 20.75.  
 Lard 11.07@11.10.  
 Ribs 11.77.

### NEW YORK STOCKS.

New York, June 16.—Following are the quotations on the New York stock market today.  
 American Sugar Refining ..... 106½  
 American Tel. & Tel. .... 127½  
 American Express ..... 95½  
 Northwestern ..... 127½  
 St. Paul ..... 102½  
 Illinois Central ..... 112½  
 International Harvester ..... 102½  
 New York Central ..... 99½  
 Northern Pacific ..... 106½  
 Pennsylvania ..... 109½  
 People's Gas ..... 107½  
 Reading ..... 156  
 Rock Island common ..... 15½  
 Rock Island preferred ..... 24½  
 Union Pacific ..... 144½  
 U. S. Steel common ..... 52½  
 U. S. Steel preferred ..... 104

### LOCAL MARKET CONDITIONS.

June 16.—Following are the wholesale quotations on the local market today:

Butter, Eggs and Cheese.	
Eggs, fresh, doz	18c
Butter, dairy, lb	25c
Butter, creamery, lb	29c
Butter, packing, stock, lb	18c
Vegetables.	
Potatoes, bunch	30c
Parsley, bunch	13c
Tomatoes, green house, lb	20c
Onions, bunch	2c
Cucumbers, each	15c, 10c, 5c
Lettuce, lb	12½c
Lettuce, head, lb	25c
New potatoes, Florida, bbl	\$6.75
New Cabbage, Louisiana, lb	4c
Onions, Texas, Bermuda and Silver	6c, 4c
Skin lb.	6c, 4c
Chickens.	
Old cocks	8c
Chickens	14c
Spring	25c

### Fish Market.

Buffalo ..... 8½c  
 Perch ..... 4c to 7c  
 Halibut, fresh ..... 10c  
 Pickerel, lb ..... 8c  
 Trout, lb ..... 12c  
 Catfish, lb ..... 15c  
 Halibut, lb ..... 10c

### Flour, Feed and Fuel.

Straw, ton ..... \$9.50  
 Straw, bale ..... 40¢@45¢  
 Hay, prairie, bale ..... 50¢@60¢  
 Bran, ton ..... \$23.00  
 Bran, cwt ..... \$1.25  
 Corn, bushel ..... 58c  
 Oats, load, bushel ..... 40c  
 Corn chop, cwt ..... \$1.35  
 Shorts, ton ..... \$24.00  
 Shorts, cwt ..... \$1.15  
 Wheat, bushel ..... 85c  
 Corn, bushel ..... 55c  
 Coal, lump, per ton ..... \$3.50@4.00  
 Timothy hay ..... \$14@17

### POCKETS VERSUS HAND BAGS.

**Real Reason of the Subjection of Woman to Man.**

Civilized man finds it difficult to make his way through life without a dozen pockets. The ordinary walking suit has fifteen. Civilized woman makes her way through life without pockets, depending on a single bag carried in the hand. The professional humorists have never tired of commenting on woman's pocketless condition, but it is really no laughing matter.

Here is a sex difference which is something more than fashion, which goes to the very heart of the subjection of woman to man. If we accept Spencer's definition of the evolutionary process as consisting in progress from an indefinite homogeneity to a definite heterogeneity the superior position of man is at once established. His fifteen diversified pockets, each allocated to a separate use—watch, cigar case, pocketknife, purse, newspaper and package of garden seeds—need only be contrasted with the single reticule in which the female of the species stores away an unco-ordinated mass of handkerchiefs, toilet articles, car fare, press clippings, telephone addresses, dress goods samples, confettionery, memoranda and trinkets—bills that have long been settled by check.

Strong in his pockets, man walks the earth free in the play of his upper limbs, whereas woman sacrifices the

use of her right arm before venturing out in a world of street cars, motorcars, moving staircases, elevators and ticket booths.—New York Post.

**No Wonder She Behaved.**  
 "I believe," said the minister, with a twinkle in his eye, "that the saying that children and fools tell the truth" is true. The other day my wife and I were invited out to dinner. The children of the family were so remarkably well behaved that my wife remarked:

"What lovely, well behaved children yours are, Mrs. Brown!"  
 "Both Mr. and Mrs. Brown beamed at this approval of their offspring, when up piped little Mary. 'Well, pa said that if we didn't behave he'd knock our blocks off, didn't you, pa?'—Mother's Magazine.

"It cured me," or "It saved the life of my child," are the expressions you hear every day about Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. This is true the world over where this valuable remedy has been introduced. No other medicine in use for diarrhoea or bowel complaints has received such general approval. The secret of the success of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy is that it cures. Sold by all druggists.—(Adv.)

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Next visit to Rock Island, Harper house, Wednesday, June 18, 8 a. m. to 4 p. m.

## CATARRH IN THE BLOOD

A polluted and impure condition of the blood causes irritation and inflammation of the different mucous membranes of the body, and we call it Catarrh. The early stages of the disease are characterized by such symptoms as a tight, stuffy feeling in the nose, watery eyes, ringing noises in the ears, irritation of the throat, and often hoarseness and difficult breathing. If the trouble is not checked it invades the stomach and other portions of the body and becomes a dangerous disorder. Antiseptic washes, sprays, etc., are beneficial in removing accumulated mucus from the nose or throat, but such treatment can never cure Catarrh. S. S. S. is the one real dependable remedy for Catarrh. This great medicine cures the disease because it purifies the blood and thus destroys its cause. S. S. S. goes into the circulation and removes the last trace of catarrhal matter, and then the blood performs its work of nourishing the membranes and tissues instead of depositing impure matter into them to irritate and inflame. S. S. S. cures to stay cured. If you have Catarrh in any form take S. S. S. and cure it as thousands have done. Book on Catarrh and any medical advice free to all who write. S. S. S. is sold at drug stores.

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