

The War Fifty Years Ago

General Sherman's Slow March Toward Meridian, Miss. A Cavalry Column Moving to Support Sherman Is Delayed by Bad Roads...

By Capt. GEORGE KILMER, Late U. S. V. In January, 1864, General W. T. Sherman arranged with General U. S. Grant for an expedition from Vicksburg to Meridian, Miss., with 20,000 infantry under his own command and a co-operating cavalry expedition, 7,000 mounted men and twenty pieces of artillery...

General Sherman's slow march toward Meridian, Miss., was a masterpiece of strategy. He moved his army in a series of small steps, always keeping his supply lines short and his flanks covered. The cavalry played a crucial role in disrupting Confederate communications and supply lines.

skirmish ensued, in which four were killed on the Federal side and thirteen wounded. Two Confederates were killed and three wounded, when they fled to the woods. Their force was about 150 men. At 6 p. m. Colonel Henry reached Sanderson, forty miles from Jacksonville. The place had been abandoned by the Confederates.

On the 11th the command camped five miles from Lake City, which was held by Confederates, but evacuated during the night. This was unknown to Colonel Henry, and as he was withdrawing he retraced his steps to Sanderson.

Seymour Risks Defeat. Telegraphic communication was established between Jacksonville and Baldwin, and General Q. A. Gillmore, Seymour's superior, who was at Jacksonville, sent instructions to Seymour not to risk a repulse in advancing upon Lake City, but to hold Sanderson unless there were reasons for falling back...

In his estimate of the foe Seymour was mistaken, for on the day when Gillmore's instructions reached him Finegan had approximately 6,000 men in position around Ocean pond, on the Oloree river, midway between Sanderson and Lake City. Ponds and lakes abounding in the region offered advantages of defense. Finegan immediately began to fortify against the advancing Federals. Trenches were dug between the lakes so as to form a continuous line fronting east.

Meanwhile Seymour prepared to advance despite the remonstrances of his subordinate officers. It was pointed out to him that he would be fifty or sixty miles from his base at Jacksonville with only a rickety single track railroad as a means of communication. Nevertheless he believed it to be his duty to go ahead. Gillmore had sailed from Jacksonville for Hilton Head, S. C., and could not be consulted without long delay.

Jailbreak From Libby Prison. During the night of Feb. 9-10, 1864, a body of Federal officers confined as prisoners of war in Libby prison, Richmond, accomplished one of the most daring escapes in the history of the civil conflict.



Copyright by Patriot Publishing company. GENERAL WILLIAM SOOY SMITH, U. S. A., LEADER OF FEDERAL CAVALRY IN MICHIGAN.

seventh Pennsylvania infantry. Armed with a jackknife and chisel, with the assistance of a brother officer, Rose cut a passage through a stone chimney in the kitchen basement of the prison. Through this several men dropped into the cellar. There, with improvised tools, after tedious labor they cut a hole through the stone base of the structure. After that sixty feet of tunnel large enough to pass a man had to be dug in order to clear the line of prison guards. All the work was done between 10 p. m. and 4 a. m. The dirt was put into a small wooden box used in the daytime as a cuspidor and hoisted in thin layers beneath the straw covering of the floor, thus eluding the eyes of prison inspectors. The work was accomplished in fifty-one days.

The exit was into an empty shed beyond the guard lines. When the band went out Colonel A. D. Straight, the leader, who was a large man, stuck fast at the exit and was extricated with difficulty. He went free and was in Washington within five days. Colonel Rose and his companion in bursting through the kitchen wall were retaken within a short time and returned to Libby.

NOT MADE BY SPOOKS. House Noises at Night That Sound Like Ghostly Footfalls. In old houses the boards and joists forming the floors are often in a somewhat unstable condition. Many floors are permanently bent with the traffic of generations. Others are still undergoing the warping process. It is easy to imagine a floor which is in a perfectly ripe condition for the production of ghostly sounds.

During the daytime the timbers get bent with the weight of the various inmates of the house walking to and fro, but the noise and bustle of the day drowns the starting and creaking which goes on until the floor has recovered its natural position, as it is bound to do in time, wood being of an elastic nature. When, however, the stillness of night comes on, these little intermittent movements may become magnified into mysterious footfalls, according to the imagination of the bearer. I myself live in a house the landing of which exactly illustrates my argument. Some hours after all are in bed the sound of one stealthily creeping along the landing is heard—loud enough to startle a light sleeper into wakefulness.

Who's that? has often been the exclamation, but by good sense the natural explanation has as often been accepted.—London Times.

Didn't Need the Hoe. Some time ago a hobo meekly tapped on the back door of a suburban home and asked for something to eat. The good housewife responded that she would feed him on the back step along with Fido provided he was willing to earn the meal by cleaning out the gutter.

The tramp agreed, and when he had eaten his way through several sandwiches the housewife came out with a reliable looking hoe. 'You needn't have gone to that trouble, madam,' said the hobo. 'I never use a hoe in cleaning out a gutter.' 'Never use a hoe!' said the woman. 'What do you use, then, a shovel?'

'No, madam,' sweetly replied the hobo, starting for the back gate, 'my method is to pray for rain.'—Boston Advertiser.

Pump Anchors. A pump is a queer sort of anchor, but it has been found to be the best kind of an anchor for a sandy bottom. The anchor consists of a heavy piece of metal with a hole down through the center and a tube from this hole to the ship, so that water can be pumped from the ship down through the tube and out of the bottom of the metal mass. When this anchor drops to the sandy bottom and the pump is started it makes quicksand of the material round it so that it sinks in deep. When the pumping stops the sand hardens and holds the anchor. To raise the anchor it is necessary only to start pumping again and loosen the sand.—Saturday Evening Post.

Lyons, France—Pierre and Gabriel Salvez, brothers, were killed while making an experimental flight in an all-metal monoplane of their own invention. The left wing of the monoplane gave way and the machine dashed to the ground.

TODAY'S MARKET QUOTATIONS

Local and Foreign

Chicago and New York markets furnished by E. W. Wagner & Co., members Chicago Board of Trade; grain, provisions, stocks and cotton; private wires to all financial centers. Correspondents on the New York Stock and Cotton Exchanges. Tri-city office: suite 309 Best building. Phone Rock Island 330. P. J. McCormick, Manager.

Table of Chicago and New York Market Quotations including Wheat, Corn, Oats, and Live Stock prices.

Sheep steady, 19 cents lower. 3.85 @ 6.00, lambs 5.60 @ 8.00. Close of Market. Hogs strong. Early prices strong to shade higher than Saturday's average.

Table of New York Market Quotations for various commodities like wool, sugar, and other goods.

Market Square Sales. February 28, 1914. 6 loads of corn at \$1.72 at 75c. 1 load of oats at \$3.8c. 2 loads of timothy hay at \$16.00.



Copyright by Patriot Publishing company. GENERAL SAM JONES, C. S. A., CONFEDERATE COMMANDER IN FLORIDA, AND GENERAL J. R. HAWLEY, U. S. A., LEADER OF A FEDERAL BRIGADE IN SEYMOUR'S FLORIDA EXPEDITION.

Sherman's Night Adventure. On the night of Feb. 12 General Sherman, then approaching Meridian, narrowly escaped capture by a roaming band of Confederate troopers, who dashed at a passing wagon train in the hopes of finding some Federal rations to appease hunger.

The Campaign a Puzzle. Taken all in all, the Meridian campaign has always been a puzzle to military men. Sherman deemed it worth while to deny in his memoirs that he had intended at the time to go to Mobile and in not going there from Meridian had failed in accomplishing the objects in view when the column left Vicksburg.

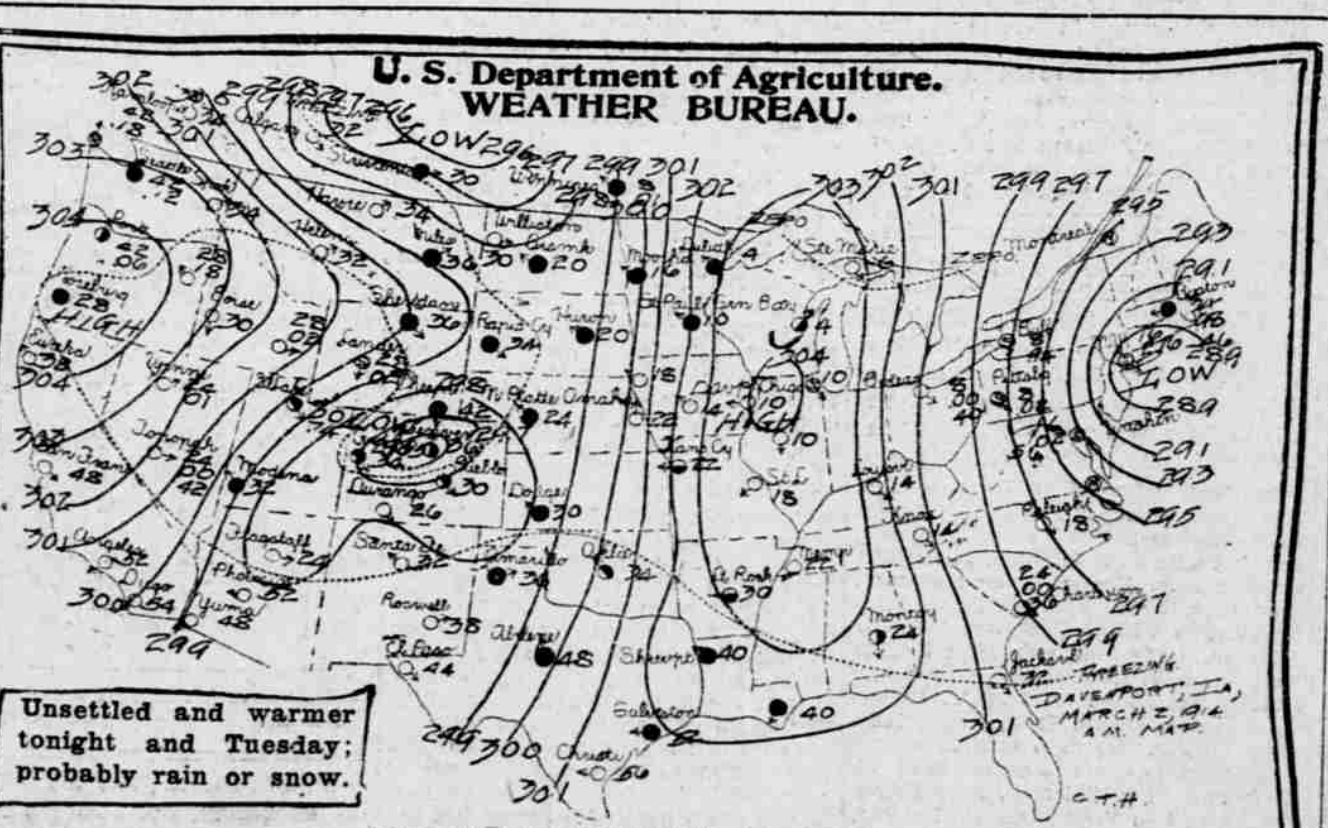
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Seymour's Florida Expedition. The incursion into Florida of General Truman Seymour's Federal command the first week in February had led to a gathering of Confederates to thwart it. General Sam Jones commanded the Confederate department, which included Florida, and General Joseph Finegan the district threatened by Seymour.

Muscatine City Hall Project Knocked Out. Muscatine, Iowa, March 2.—The city hall project received a death blow Saturday afternoon, when Judge Theophilus in district court granted Benjamin Reesink a temporary injunction restraining the city of Muscatine, any of its officials or County Collector R. E. Johnson from collecting taxes on the \$90,000 bond issue.

Daily United States Weather Map



Unsettled and warmer tonight and Tuesday; probably rain or snow. Observations taken at 8 a. m. 75th meridian time. Air pressure reduced to sea level. Isobars (continuous lines) pass through points of equal air pressure. Isotherms (dotted lines) pass through points of equal temperature.

WAGNER'S REVIEW. Morning Grain Letter. Chicago, March 2.—If the calendar duplicates wheat is now a sale. Foreigners are waiting to see our market estimates. Inter Ocean thinks wheat in a probable strong position, but does not expect much on bull side during first half of March.

Trend of Corn During March. Chicago, March 2.—Over a period of many years corn has behaved gallantly during March, 1910 was an exceptional year, a bear March, based on very large supplies in seven big states and a false high price of around 67c for May corn. Otherwise the March periods of corn history have been regular affairs.

Good Judgment. 'Your partner,' remarked the privileged friend, 'seems to be a man of unusually good judgment.' 'You bet he is,' replied the self acknowledged brat of the firm. 'Why he never makes a move without asking my advice.'—Chicago News.

SPRINGFIELD COAL. Delivery of any part of the city. Single Tons, \$2.75. Two Tons \$3.50 Ton. Telephone R. 1, 2925.

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