Events of the Civil War: Part Four

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The War in the West

Battle of Shiloh

Hardin County, Tennessee April 1862

General Don Carlos Buell and Ulysses S. Grant vs. Albert Sidney Johnston and P. G. T. Beauregard









Confederate forces surprised Union troops and then drove them across the Tennessee River. The Union's backup arrived and enabled them to win the battle. This battle was very bloody, with General Johnston one of the many lives lost. After this, the Confederates evacuated the nearby city of Cornith.

Capture of New Orleans

New Orleans, Louisiana April 1862

Admiral David G. Farragut vs. General Mansfield Lovell





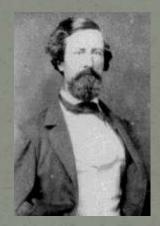
In April of 1862, after passing many other forts, the Union was ready to capture of New Orleans itself. The city had been spared, unlike many other Southern towns. The capture of the largest Confederate city was a major turning point in the war for the Union.

Battle and Siege of Vicksburg

Warren County, Mississippi Summer 1863

General Ulysses S. Grant vs. General John C. Pemberton



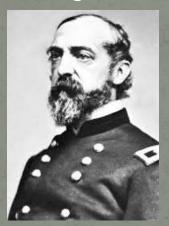


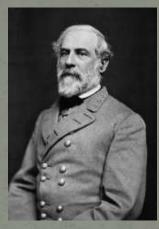
Vicksburg had been a river town in Mississippi that was armed with weaponry. The residents had shot at Union ships as they passed. Grant led a siege of the town. During this battle Grant proved to be a promising general and was later put in charge of all Union forces. The Union victory was important because it was a turning point in the war. The Union had finally taken control of the Mississippi River, a goal since the start of the war.

Battle of Gettysburg

Adams County, Pennsylvania July 1863

Admiral George G. Meade vs. General Robert E. Lee





Gettysburg was the bloodiest event of the Civil War and was a turning point for the Union. The battle's main events took place in the town of Gettysburg, Culp's Hill, Cemetery Ridge, and Little Roundtop. The Union's forces were only pierced briefly on the last day in the event known as Pickett's Charge. The Confederates basically walked to their deaths, and Lee's forces suffered greatly. This battle is important because after the battle it was known that the North would win. After this battle Lincoln would give his famous Gettysburg Address.