

JOHN LANGDON WARD LANTERN SLIDES

Mss. 4875

Inventory

Compiled by
Mark E. Martin

Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections
Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library
Louisiana State University Libraries
Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University

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SUMMARY

Size	0.5 linear ft. (107 items)
Geographic Locations	Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida
Inclusive Dates	1863-1867, circa 1880
Languages	English
Summary	The John Langdon Ward Lantern Slides consist of one hundred seven (107) lantern slides, most of which document the Siege of Port Hudson, Louisiana, during the U.S. Civil War (May 23-July 9, 1863). The slides were created by Ward circa 1880 from albumen carte de visite photographs taken by various photographers from 1863-1867. Also included are two slides of Port Hudson battle maps.
Access Restrictions	Glass lantern slides are restricted due to their fragility. Please use the digital surrogates found here: https://louisianadigitallibrary.org/islandora/object/lsu-sc-wls:collection
Reproduction Note	May be reproduced from digital surrogates.
Copyright	Copyright of the original materials in this collection has expired, and they are therefore in the public domain.
Related Collections	Marshall Dunham Photograph Album, Mss. 3241 Port Hudson Cartes de Visite, Mss. 4877
Citation	John Langdon Ward Lantern Slides, Mss. 4875, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries Special Collections, Baton Rouge, La.
Stack Location(s)	65:90

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

John Langdon Ward, born October 25, 1841, was commissioned Captain of the 50th Regiment Massachusetts Infantry, September 15, 1862. Ordered with the regiment to Louisiana, he served with the 19th Corps through the siege of Port Hudson. Ward was commissioned Major of the 3rd Infantry Corps d'Afrique, the third Regiment of black troops in the United States, changed to the 75th United States Colored Infantry July 24, 1863. He was detailed to the staff of the Corps under General George L. Andrews as Commissary of Musters. When the Corps organization was broken up Ward resigned his commission, July 21, 1864, and moved to New York City where he studied and eventually practiced law.

The *Corps d'Afrique* formed in New Orleans after the city was taken and occupied by Federal forces in May 1862. The Corps d'Afrique was formed in part from the Louisiana Native Guards. The Native Guards, comprised of property-owning free people of color (*gens du couleur libres*), were former militia units raised in New Orleans. Later in the war, the Union recruited freedmen from refugee camps in former Confederate territory to populate units of the Corps d'Afrique. These units took part in the siege of Port Hudson.

The Bureau of Colored Troops was established by the United States War Department General Order Number 143, May 22, 1863. This general order facilitated the recruitment of African-American soldiers to fight in the Union Army. Regiments, including infantry, cavalry, engineers, light artillery, and heavy artillery units, were recruited from all states of the Union and became known as the United States Colored Troops (USCT). A section of the United State Military Cemetery in Baton Rouge was set aside for USCT casualties.

The Siege of Port Hudson, Louisiana (May 22 - July 9, 1863), was the final engagement in the Federal campaign for control of the Mississippi River during the War. Vicksburg, Mississippi, roughly 170 miles upriver from Port Hudson, was under siege (May 18 – July 4, 1863) by Federal forces under the command of General Ulysses S. Grant. Port Hudson was under siege by the forces of General Nathaniel Banks with the aid of the West Gulf Blockading Squadron under the command of Flag Officer David G. Farragut. Port Hudson was under the command of Major General Franklin Gardner who successfully defended the fort against Federal forces.

When Major General Gardner learned that Vicksburg had surrendered on July 4, 1863, he realized that his situation was unsustainable. Terms of surrender were negotiated, and on July 9, 1863, the fort's defenders surrendered, ending forty-eight days of continuous fighting. It had been the longest siege ever conducted on U.S. soil.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The John Langdon Ward Lantern Slides are comprised of images of interior and exterior views of the citadel at Port Hudson after its fall, views of Federal encampments outside the citadel, and some of the Federal troops involved in the siege. In addition, two maps showing the positions of Federal and Confederate forces in and around Port Hudson are reproduced as lantern slides. There are also a very limited number of slides showing other locations and topics, including Baton Rouge, Louisiana; formerly enslaved people; the Fort Barrancas Lighthouse; Vicksburg, Mississippi; and scenes from the Red River Campaign. Ward's original titles are preserved in the container list along with any notes that he made about the subject.

Creation of the lantern slides in this collection is ascribed to John Ward. He may have created these slides about 1880. It appears that all of the images, with the possible exception of the maps reproduced for slides 1 and 2, are copies of photographs originally created by a number of other photographers between about 1863 and 1867. The Marshall Dunham Photograph Album (Mss. 3241) and the Port Hudson Cartes de Visite (Mss. 4877), two collections of albumen carte de visite (CDV) photographs created about 1863, contain between them twenty images appearing in this collection. The studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, photographers, appears on eighteen of these twenty CDVs.

Lantern slides were a widespread form of entertainment in the 19th and early-20th centuries. A lantern slide consists of a glass plate containing a positive image developed in gelatin, wet-, or dry-plate collodion, a clear cover glass to protect the image, sometimes a paper or painted border, and the whole bound together with paper tape running around the edges. The positive could be contact printed or enlarger/reducer printed from a negative. Sets of slides could be purchased from many different vendors or the photographic hobbyist could produce their own. Slide manufacturing kits containing the sensitized photographic plate, the cover glass, borders, and tape could be purchased for home use.

Content Warning: Items in this collection contain historical terms, phrases, or images that are offensive, outdated, and/or harmful. These include demeaning and dehumanizing references to race, ethnicity, and nationality; enslaved or free status; physical and mental ability; and gender and sexual orientation.

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

A detailed listing of the subjects of each image follows:

Port Hudson scenes

Consists of eighty-three (83) images of Port Hudson and vicinity following the siege.

Corps d' Afrique scenes

Consists of eight (8) images of Corps d' Afrique divisions and officers.

Federal naval vessels

Consists of three (3) images of Federal naval vessels.

Baton Rouge scenes

Consists of three (3) images of occupied Baton Rouge.

Anti-slavery images

Consists of three (3) images of two different former enslaved males, a man and a boy.

Lighthouse, Fort Barrancas, Florida

Consists of one (1) image of the lighthouse at Fort Barrancas, Florida.

Vicksburg, Mississippi

Consists of one (1) image of Fort Hill in Vicksburg, Mississippi.

Red River Campaign

Consists of four (4) images related to the Red River campaign. All four images are photographic reproductions of engravings.

INDEX TERMS

Materials relating to these people, places, and things can be found throughout the collection.

African Americans—Slides.
Baton Rouge (La.)—Slides.
Batteries (Ordnance)—Mississippi—Vicksburg—Slides.
Child soldiers—United States—Slides.
Children—Slides.
Essex (Ironclad steamer)—Slides.
Fort Barrancas (Fla.)—Slides.
Fugitive slaves—Louisiana—Slides.
Hypertrophic scars—Slides.
Lighthouses—Florida—Pensacola—Slides.
Mississippi (Side-wheel steamer)—Slides.
Old State Capitol (Baton Rouge, La.)—Slides.
Pleasant Hill (La.)—Slides.
Port Hudson (La.)—History—Siege, 1863—Slides.
Red River Expedition, 1864—Slides.
Slaves—United States—Slides.
St. Maurice (Steamer)—Slides.
Street photography—Louisiana—Baton Rouge—Slides.
United States. Army—African American troops—Slides.
United States—History—Civil War, 1861-1865—Participants, Juvenile—Slides.
United States—History—Civil War, 1861-1865—Slides.
Vicksburg (Miss.)—History—Siege, 1863—Slides.
Waterfronts—Louisiana—Baton Rouge—Slides.

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack</u> <u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Titles (with notes)</u>
65:90	1	1	"U. S. Engineer's Battle Map - Port Hudson, 1863" (135 mi N of New Orleans)
		2	"Map of Port Hudson defenders (Rebel)" (21 heavy cannon, 50 guns all)
		3	"Saw-mill at Ross, or Mt. Pleasant Landing" (50 miles S of Sheveport [sic] April 9, 1864 last battle in south before Trans-Miss Depart surrender May 26, 1865) [The last major battle of the Red River Campaign took place 09 April 1864 at Pleasant Hill, not Mount Pleasant. On 12 April 1864 Union and Confederate forces fought a small engagement at Blair's Landing, also called Pleasant Hill Landing, on the Red River. This image may be Pleasant Hill itself rather than Blair's Landing.]
		4	"Citadel near the water's edge" [studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers]
		5	"Interior view Citadel looking South"
		6	"Entrance to the mine under the Citadel on the extreme South" [studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers]
		7	"Part of Major Bayley's 17 gun battery (Ours)"
		8	"Capt. Grimsby's Battery (Indiana) (Battery 24)"
		9	"Indiana Battery (Battery 24)"
		10	"Another part of Major Bayley's Battery (56)"
		11	"Looking towards our 17 gun battery (Bayley's 24)" [studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers]
		12	"Looking towards our 17 gun battery showing gopher holes" [studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers]
		13	"Still another" (how fortify) [studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers]
		14	"Inside the Citadel"
		15	"Another view" [studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers]
		16	"Interior near 11"
		17	"Small detached work near Citadel (showing approaches). Camp of 6th Michigan in the distance"
		18	"View across a ravine inside – Camp 6th Michigan"
		19	"Inside the large detached work on the South – opposite Bough's Battery 21, siege Howitzers"

<u>Stack Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Titles (with notes)</u>
65:90	1	20	"Interior of large detached work on the South" (notice guns)
		21	"Interior of works on our left – opposite Battery 20 – Roy"
		22	"Interior view as the rebels left it – Augur's front"
		23	"Lady Davis – to the right of the Jackson Sally-port, Augur's front"
		24	"Another view"
		25	"Still another" [studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers]
		26	"Capt. Mack's Battery (Battery 11)"
		27	"32 disabled by Mack's Battery" [studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers]
		28	"Same"
		29	"Rebel 32, in an excavated Battery – struck eleven consecutive times by a 20 pdr. parrot at 150 yards"
		30	"Naval Battery (9 inch) (Battery 10)"
		31	"Section of Central Sap"
		32	"Cavalliere – taken from Central Sap"
		33	"Interior view"
		34	"Capt. Coxe's Battery (Battery 9)"
		35	"Weitzel's battle ground – June 14 th "
		36	"32 looking towards Grover's front"
		37	"Capt. Bainbridge's Battery" (notice makeshift shelter fortifications)
		38	"Interior view"
		39	"Interior view (opposite Bainbridge ?)"
		40	"Scene in front of Bainbridge's Battery" (destruction) [studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers]
		41	"Part of the rebel works"
		42	"View on the extreme North, where the colored troops charged May 27, 1864 – charging from the woods to the hill"
		43	"Looking from inside the rebel works over the same field" [studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers]
		44	"Interior"
		45	"Interior view"
		46	"Interior view"
		47	"Interior view"
		48	"Interior view" [studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers]
		49	"An uncomfortable spot inside"

<u>Stack</u> <u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Titles (with notes)</u>
65:90	1	50	"Another one"
		51	"On the bluff by the River"
		52	"Interior view on the bluff looking South" (fortifications)
		53	"Interior" (tents)
		54	"Inside on the River"
	2	55	"Interior – River front"
		56	"A case of false pretenses on the water front" [studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers]
		57	"Interior River front"
		58	"Interior view, River front"
		59	"Some of the Navy's handiwork on the water front" [studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers]
		60	"Interior view – River front"
		61	"Under the bluff looking South"
		62	"River bottom under the bluff, looking South"
		63	"Interior"
		64	"R.R. Depot and engine, used to grind corn"
		65	"Church used as a granary" [studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers]
		66	"Rebel huts" [studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers]
		67	"Piles of salt barrels left by rebels"
		68	"Branch of the Post Hospital"
		69	"Post Guard House"
		70	"Another view"
		71	"Hospital 11th Regt. C. d'A." [Corps d'Afrique]
		72	"Major Geo. B. Halsted's quarters"
		73	"Park of captured cannon" (after sur.) [studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers]
		74	"9-inch Dahlgren's of the naval Battery slung for transportation" (off the Richmond) [studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers]
		75	"Battery of field mortars" (Mort Batt.) [studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers]
		76	"Headquarters 1st Brig. 1st Div. Corps d'Afrique, Col. Dickey"
		77	"Headquarters 2 Brig. 1st Div, Corps d'Afrique, Col. Hamlin"
		78	"Hdqrs. 2d Brig. 2d Div. Corps d'Afrique, Col. Goodrich"
		79	"Col. Goodrich's Camp – Headquarters 2n Brig., 2d Div., Col. Goodrich"

<u>Stack</u> <u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Titles (with notes)</u>
65:90	2	80	"Camp 10 Regt. Corps d'Afrique – Col. L. L. Zulavsky"
		81	"Group of Officers 10 Regt. Corps d'Afrique"
		82	"Part of outer line, 1864"
		83	"Battery No. 1 ('64)"
		84	"Battery No. 3 ('64), near Jackson Sally-port"
		85	"Detached work, 1864"
		86	"Another view"
		87	"Works in '64 Camps in distance"
		88	"Barnes' Battery Camp"
		89	"Co. [?] (Capt. Merritt's) 76 U.S.C.T."
		90	"The Mississippi" (burned Mar 14, 1863 when ran aground while carrying guns for union to Pt. Hudson because ran aground)
		91	"The Essex" (Ironclad – damaged on Feb 21, 1863 trying to take Fort Henry on Tenn River.)
		92	"An old timer on the River" [St. Maurice]
		93	"The Capitol at Baton Rouge" [Fire gutted the Louisiana State Capitol on the night of December 30, 1863.]
		94	"Angur's [sic] Headquarters at Baton Rouge" [Dunham identifies this as General Grover's headquarters (Louisiana State Bank)]
		95	"Scene near Baton Rouge"
		96	"600 Miles through swamp and cane brake to fight for freedom" [This is a full-length standing portrait of an approximately 12-year-old male Black child dressed in rags. He stands on a bare wooden floor in front of a canvas backdrop looking at the camera.]
		97	"Taylor – drummer 78th U.S.C.T." [This is a full-length standing portrait of an approximately 12 year-old male Black child dressed as a Union Army drummer. He stands on a bare wooden floor in front of a canvas backdrop looking at the camera.]
		98a	"The beneficent institution – a record that is conclusive in its own handwriting" [A Black man, naked from the waist up, sits with his back to the camera. His back is covered with hypertrophic scars as a result of being lashed.]
		98b	"Group of officers 10 Regt. Corp d'Afrique"
		99	"Light House at Barrancas, Fla."
		100	"Fort Hill – Vicksburg"

WARD (JOHN LANGDON) LANTERN SLIDES

1863-1867, circa 1880

Mss. 4875**LSU LIBRARIES SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

<u>Stack</u> <u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Titles (with notes)</u>
65:90	2	101	“Bridge of boats over the Atchafalaya” (river carrying water from Red & Miss. river to sea: used in Red River campaign) [This is a photographic reproduction of an engraving.]
		102	“View above the falls at Alexandria” (west bank of Red River) [This is a photographic reproduction of an engraving.]
		103	“Building the dam at Alexandria” (so gun boats could get over rapids.) [This is a photographic reproduction of an engraving.]
		104	“Steamer passing over the dam” [This is a photographic reproduction of an engraving.]
		105	“View of field from behind defensive works” [This slide unnumbered.]
		106	“View of field with encampment in the distance” [This slide unnumbered.]