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The World's Famous Events

1913

GRANT AT SHILOH

(He Strengthens the Union Troops Against the Tremendous Charge of the Southerners)

BULL RUN, the first Southern victory of the war, was followed by others. Nor did the tide of battle turn in favor of the North until General Ulysses S. Grant won in Tennessee the hard fought struggle of Shiloh. This was in April of 1862. Grant first besieged and captured a large Southern force in Fort Donelson, then advanced until he was suddenly assailed at Shiloh by the entire army which the "Confederates" had gathered in the West.

The Union forces were at first taken by surprise, were driven back and almost defeated. But Grant, riding calmly forward among his men, encouraged them to hold out against the furious charges of the Southerners. Night saved the Union army; and the next day, being reinforced, the Northerners advanced in their turn and swept the exhausted enemy completely from the field.

Immediately following this decisive battle, the Union fleet under Admiral Farragut captured New Orleans, the chief defense of the Mississippi River. Thus the Union forces achieved supremacy in the West. The Confederates there were driven to desperate straits, and abandoning most of the land to the Northerners concentrated their forces at Vicksburg, the strongest city remaining to them on the banks of the Mississippi.

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