

**JOHN LANGDON WARD LANTERN SLIDES**

Mss. 4875

Inventory

Created by  
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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.** 107 glass lantern slides

**Geographic locations.** Louisiana

**Inclusive dates.** circa 1880

**Languages.** English.

**Summary.** The collection consists of one hundred seven (107) lantern slides documenting the Siege of Port Hudson, 23 May – 09 July 1863. The slides, whose creation circa 1880 is attributed to John Langdon Ward, appear to be copies of albumen carte de visite photographs created circa 1863 by a variety of photographers.

**Access.** Some restrictions apply. The glass lantern slides in this collection may only be accessed with advanced permission of the curatorial staff.

Digital surrogates have been created and may be accessed at  
[http://www.louisianadigitallibrary.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/LSU\\_WLS](http://www.louisianadigitallibrary.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/LSU_WLS)

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**Citation.** John Langdon Ward Lantern Slides, Mss. 4875, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.

**Stack location.** 65:09

*Note: These images have been digitized and are available online at:*

[http://www.louisianadigitallibrary.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/LSU\\_WLS](http://www.louisianadigitallibrary.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/LSU_WLS)

**BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE**

John Langdon Ward, born October 25, 1841, was commissioned Captain of the 50<sup>th</sup> Regiment Massachusetts Infantry, September 15, 1862. Ordered with the regiment to Louisiana, he served with the 19<sup>th</sup> Corps through the siege of Port Hudson. Ward was commissioned Major of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Corps d'Afrique, the third Regiment of black troops in the United States, changed to the 75<sup>th</sup> 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 US 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; former slaves; the Fort Barrancas Lighthouse; Vicksburg, Mississippi; and scenes from the Red River Campaign.

Lantern slides were a widespread form of entertainment in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early-20<sup>th</sup> 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.

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.

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 slaves, 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**

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.

<u>Stack Location</u>	<u>Box number</u>	<u>Folder number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Notes</u>
65:09	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. mem]
		4	Citadel near the water's edge.	[See Dunham, 3241139, and Port Hudson CDVs (PHCDV), 487701. These CDVs carry the studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers.]
		5	Interior view Citadel looking South.	none
		6	Entrance to the mine under the Citadel on the extreme South.	[See Dunham, 3241147, and Port Hudson CDVs (PHCDV), 487702. These CDVs carry the studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers.]
		7	Part of Major Bayley's 17 gun battery (Ours).	none
		8	Capt. Grimsby's Battery (Indiana) (Battery 24).	none
		9	Indiana Battery (Battery 24).	none
		10	Another part of Major Bayley's Battery (56).	none

<u>Stack Location</u>	<u>Box number</u>	<u>Folder number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Notes</u>
65:09	1	11	Looking towards our 17 gun battery (Bayley's 24).	[See Dunham, 3241143. This CDV carries the studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers.]
		12	Looking towards our 17 gun battery showing gopher holes.	[See Dunham, 3241145. This CDV carries the studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers.]
		13	Still another	how fortify [See Dunham, 3241158. This CDV carries the studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers.]
		14	Inside the Citadel.	None
		15	Another view.	[See Dunham, 3241152, and Port Hudson CDVs (PHCDV), 487703. These CDVs carry the studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers.]
		16	Interior near 11.	None
		17	Small detached work near Citadel (showing approaches). Camp of 6th Michigan in the distance.	none
		18	View across a ravine inside – Camp 6th Michigan.	none
		19	Inside the large detached work on the South – opposite Bough's Battery 21, siege Howitzers.	none
		20	Interior of large detached work on the South.	notice guns
		21	Interior of works on our left – opposite Battery 20 – Roy.	none
		22	Interior view as the rebels left it – Augur's front.	none
		23	Lady Davis – to the right of the Jackson Sally-port. Augur's front.	none
65:09	1	24	Another view.	[See Dunham, 3241141. This CDV carries no studio imprint.]
		25	Still another.	[See Dunham, 3241133, and Port Hudson CDVs (PHCDV), 487704. The PHCDV CDV carries the studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers.]
		26	Capt. Mack's Battery (Battery 11).	none
		27	32 disabled by Mack's Battery.	[See Dunham, 3241134. This CDV carries the studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers.]



<u>Stack Location</u>	<u>Box number</u>	<u>Folder number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Notes</u>
		28	Same.	None
		29	Rebel 32, in an excavated Battery – struck eleven consecutive times by a 20 pdr. parrot at 150 yards.	none
		30	Naval Battery (9 inch) (Battery 10)	none
		31	Section of Central Sap.	None
		32	Cavalliere – taken from Central Sap.	none
		33	Interior view.	None
		34	Capt. Coxe's Battery (1 [x-ed through] Battery 9).	none
		35	Weitzel's battle ground – June 14th.	none
		36	32 looking towards Grover's front.	none
		37	Capt. Bainbridge's Battery	notice makeshift shelter fortifications
		38	Interior view.	none
65:09	1	39	Interior view (opposite Bainbridge ?).	none
		40	Scene in front of Bainbridge's Battery.	destruction [See Dunham, 3241137. This CDV carries the studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers.]
		41	Part of the rebel works.	none
		42	View on the extreme North, where the colored troops charged May 27, 1864 – charging from the woods to the hill.	none
		43	Looking from inside the rebel works over the same field.	[See Dunham, 324142 & 3241136. These CDVs carry the studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers.]
		44	Interior.	none
		45	Interior view.	none
		46	Interior view.	none
		47	Interior view.	none
		48	Interior view	[See Dunham, 3241154 & 3241156, and Port Hudson CDVs (PHCDV), 487705. These CDVs carry the studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers.]
		49	An uncomfortable spot inside.	none
		50	Another one.	none
		51	On the bluff by the River.	none
		52	Interior view on the bluff	fortifications

## JOHN LANGDON WARD LANTERN SLIDES

Mss. 4875

Circa 1880

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS, LSU LIBRARIES

<u>Stack Location</u>	<u>Box number</u>	<u>Folder number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Notes</u>
			looking South.	
		53	Interior	tents
65:09	2	54	Inside on the River.	none
65:09	2	55	Interior – River front.	none
		56	A case of false pretenses on the water front.	[See Dunham, 3241153, and Port Hudson CDVs (PHCDV), 487706. These CDVs carry the studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers.]
		57	Interior River front.	none
		58	Interior view, River front.	none
		59	Some of the Navy's handiwork on the water front.	[See Port Hudson CDVs (PHCDV), 487707. This CDV carries the studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers.]
		60	Interior view – River front.	none
		61	Under the bluff looking South.	none
		62	River bottom under the bluff, looking South.	none
		63	Interior.	none
		64	R.R. Depot and engine, used to grind corn.	[See Dunham, 3241140. This CDV carries no studio imprint.]
		65	Church used as a granary.	[See Dunham, 3241146. This CDV carries the studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers.]
		66	Rebel huts.	[See Dunham, 3241157. This CDV carries the studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers.]
		67	Piles of salt barrels left by rebels	none
		68	Branch of the Post Hospital.	none
		69	Post Guard House.	none
		70	Another view.	none
65:09	2	71	Hospital 11th Regt. C. d'A. [Corps d'Afrique]	none
		72	Major Geo. B. Halsted's quarters.	none
		73	Park of captured cannon.	[See Dunham, 3241129. This CDV carries the studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers, and the inscription, "after sur."]
		74	9-inch Dahlgren's of the naval Battery slung for transportation.	[See Dunham, 3241155. This CDV carries the studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers, and inscription, "off the Richmond."]
		75	Battery of field mortars.	[See Dunham, 3241135. This CDV carries

<u>Stack Location</u>	<u>Box number</u>	<u>Folder number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Notes</u>
				the studio imprint of McPherson & Oliver, Photographers, and the inscription, "Mort Batt."]
		76	Headquarters 1st Brig. 1st Div. Corps d'Afrique, Col. Dickey.	none
		77	Headquarters 2 Brig. 1st Div, Corps d'Afrique, Col. Hamlin.	none
		78	Hdqrs. 2d Brig. 2d Div. Corps d'Afrique, Col. Goodrich.	none
		79	Col. Goodrich's Camp – Headquarters 2n Brig., 2d Div., Col. Goodrich.	none
		80	Camp 10 Regt. Corps d'Afrique – Col. L. L. Zulavsky.	none
		81	Group of Officers 10 Regt. Corps d'Afrique.	none
		82	Part of outer line, 1864.	none
65:09	2	83	Battery No. 1 ('64).	none
		84	Battery No. 3 ('64), near Jackson Sally-port.	none
		85	Detached work, 1864.	guns
		86	Another view.	none
		87	Works in [']64 Camps in distance.	none
		88	Barnes' Battery Camp.	none
		89	Co. [?] (Capt. Merritt's) 76 U.S.C.T. [lined through]	none
		90	The Mississippi.	burned Mar 14, 1863 when ran aground while carrying guns for union to Pt. Hudson because ran aground [sic]
		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]	none
		93	The Capitol at Baton Rouge.	[Fire gutted the Capitol on the night of 30 December 1863.]
		94	Angur's [sic] Headquarters at Baton Rouge.	[Dunham, 3241111, q.v., identifies this as General Grover's headquarters (Louisiana State Bank)]
		95	Scene near Baton Rouge.	none
		96	600 Miles through swamp and cane brake to fight for	[This is a full-length standing portrait of an approximately 12 year-old male black child

<u>Stack Location</u>	<u>Box number</u>	<u>Folder number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Notes</u>
			freedom.	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.]
65:09	2	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.	none
		99	Light House at Barrancas, Fla.	none
		100	Fort Hill – Vicksburg.	none
		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.