

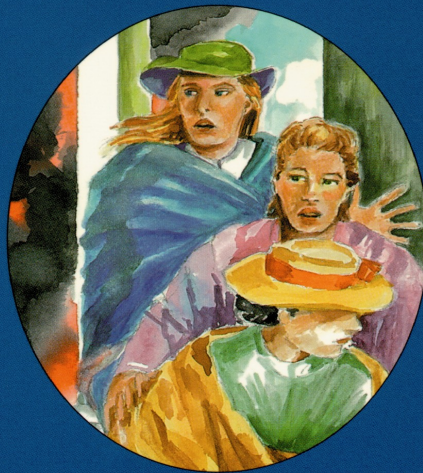


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## YANKEES ON THE DOORSTEP

The Story of  
Sarah Morgan



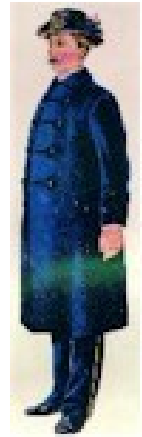
By Debra West Smith

This classroom guide contains reproducible  
worksheets for  
History True/False  
Word Search and Crosswords  
Recipes  
Web sites and other resource information  
Civil War Battlefield Map of Louisiana

Study guide created by  
Debra West Smith

### True or False?

1. All Civil War soldiers were volunteers.
2. Abraham Lincoln had family members serving in the Confederate army.
3. Confederate soldiers always wore gray.
4. Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain) was a Confederate soldier.
5. The Marine Corps was founded during the Civil War.
6. Louisiana had a large militia defending the ports of New Orleans and Baton Rouge.
7. In 1861, a private in the infantry received about \$13 a month, the price of a musket.
8. Approximately 200,000 Union soldiers were 15-16 years old.
9. Union soldiers outnumbered Confederate soldiers about 2 to 1.
10. More Confederate soldiers were killed in battle than Union soldiers.
11. The first aerial military surveillance was used in the Civil War.
12. The greatest number of men wounded or killed in a battle (40,322) was at Shiloh.
13. About the same number died of disease as from enemy fire.
14. Most soldiers who died were sent home for burial.
15. Desertion was not a problem.



USA SURGEON  
FULL DRESS



USA MAJOR  
FULL DRESS



CSA  
LIEUTENANT  
FULL DRESS



CSA CAPTAIN OF  
ARTILLERY  
FULL DRESS



USA PRIVATE  
FULL DRESS



CSA GENERAL  
FULL DRESS



CSA MAJOR  
FULL DRESS



USA COLONEL  
FULL DRESS

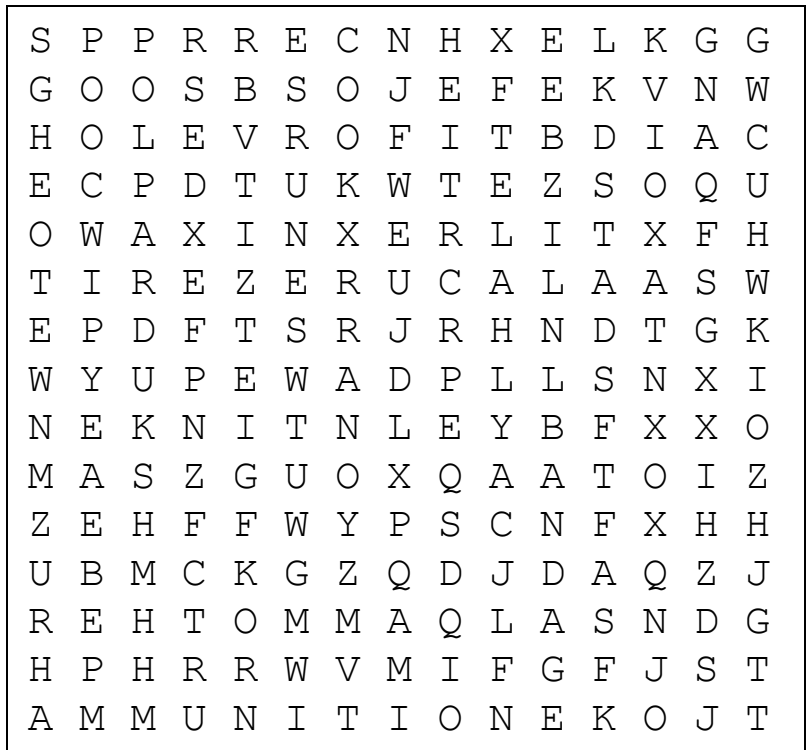
# What Women Did

Woodrow Wilson once dedicated a monument "To the Women of the Confederacy whose fidelity, whose purity, whose courage, whose gentle genius in love and in counsel, kept home secure, and family a school of virtue, the State a Court of virtue; who made war a season of heroism and peace a time of healing. The guardians of our tranquility and strength."

Back home, the ladies had many tasks. See if you can find the following:

WIFE  
SOLDIER  
FUNDRAISING  
AMMUNITION  
BANDAGE  
TEACH  
KNIT  
POET

MOTHER  
LETTERS  
COOK  
SPY  
NURSE  
SEW  
PLOW



## What They Wore to Do It



Pagoda-sleeve Day Dress

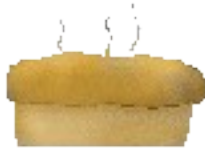


Ball Gown



Work Dress

## Recipes



### HARDTACK

Hardtack was a crackerlike biscuit made of flour, salt, and water, cooked in government bakeries, and shipped to the troops. Many said that it had to be broken with a rifle butt and might be infested with insects. One soldier complained, "All the fresh meat we had came in the hard bread!"

#### Mix:

2 cups water                      1 tbsp. salt  
Add flour until dough isn't sticky.  
Roll out to ½" thick. Cut into 3 ½" squares.  
Use the end of small round spoon to punch holes.  
Bake at 400 degrees for one hour.

### RICE GLUE

Mix rice flour with cold water until smooth. Simmer over low fire. It will form a delicate and durable cement, well adapted for joining paper and cardboard ornamental work.

### CORN CREAM CAKE

1 pint sour cream      1 quart buttermilk  
Yellow cornmeal      Baking soda  
Mix well to the consistency of pound cake.  
Pour into floured pans 1 inch deep, and bake in a quick oven.  
*(A "quick oven" is so hot that you can count to 20 while holding your hand in it. A "slow oven" allows you to count to 30.)*

### SOUTHERN JOHNNIE CAKE

2 cups cornmeal            ⅔ cups milk  
2 tbsp. lard                      2 tsp. baking soda  
½ tsp. salt  
Mix into stiff batter and form 8 biscuit-sized "corn dodgers." Bake on lightly greased pan at 350 degrees for about 20 minutes until brown, or fry in hot oil. Spread with butter or molasses.

### REPUBLICAN PUDDING

1 cup soft-boiled rice    3 eggs  
1 cup sugar                      1 pint milk  
Piece of butter the size of an egg.  
Serve with sauce.



### COFFEE SUBSTITUTE

Wash and dry ripe acorns in shell. Parch until they open. Remove shell. Roast with bacon fat, then you will have a splendid cup of coffee.

### INK

Dissolve ½ lb. extract of logwood in 5 gal. hot water. Add ½ oz. potash. Strain and bottle it. Will make 5 gal. of good, cheap ink.

### ADVICE ON PORK

Pork that is fattened from the dairy or on corn is best. Pigs fed from the still-house are all but poisonous. The fat parts are not healthy. Those who labor hard may feed with no harm, but children should never eat it. Fat pork is better for frying fish and other meats. Eat during cold weather.

### FRIED HOMINY

Hominy (processed corn)      Salt  
Lard (for frying)                      Butter  
Heat lard in frying pan. Mash and salt the hominy. Put in pan and cover with a plate. Cook slowly for ½ hour. When brown, turn onto plate.





## Remedies

### Can you match the ailment with the nineteenth-century remedy?

- |   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1. In a cup, mix fresh milk, 2 tsp. pulverized charcoal, and 10 drops spirits of turpentine. Soften the charcoal with a little milk before adding. Gargle frequently. | a. Swelling and inflammation |
| 2. Powdered alum with a little salt.  | b. Prevent foot blisters     |
| 3. Soft paste made of wheat flour and cold water.   | c. Sore throat               |
| 4. One tsp. pulverized charcoal and $\frac{1}{3}$ tsp. soda mixed in very warm water.   | d. Toothache                 |
| 5. Whiskey and the bark of dogwood, poplar, and willow trees.   | e. Thirst                    |
| 6. Cover the soles of your stockings with cheap brown soap.   | f. Malaria                   |
| 7. Chew coffee grounds.   | g. Burn                      |
| 8. Cutting and “cupping” (suctioning blood)   | h. Sick headache             |



## Civil War, the First Modern War

- 1<sup>st</sup> multi-manned submarine, the C.S.S. *Hunley*
- 1<sup>st</sup> organized use of Negro troops in combat
- 1<sup>st</sup> income tax (used to finance the war)
- 1<sup>st</sup> organized care of wounded on the battlefield
- 1<sup>st</sup> military use of a manned balloon
- 1<sup>st</sup> naval mines (torpedoes)
- 1<sup>st</sup> ironclad ships used in combat
- 1<sup>st</sup> photograph taken in combat
- 1<sup>st</sup> large-scale use of land mines
- 1<sup>st</sup> medal-of-honor awarded to an American soldier

## Web Sites

- [civilwarinteractive.com](http://civilwarinteractive.com)
- [crt.state.la.us/crt/tourism/civilwar](http://crt.state.la.us/crt/tourism/civilwar)  
(Louisiana’s role in the Civil War)
- [jewish-history.com/clipartgallery](http://jewish-history.com/clipartgallery)  
(Uniforms and more)
- [docsouth.unc.edu/dawson](http://docsouth.unc.edu/dawson)  
(1<sup>st</sup> edition of Sarah’s diary on-line)

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- Price, William. *Civil War Handbook*. Fairfax: L. B. Price Co, 1961.
- Southern Heritage Foundation. *Confederate Receipt. Book* Richmond, 1994.
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## A Confederate Girl's Crossword

### Down

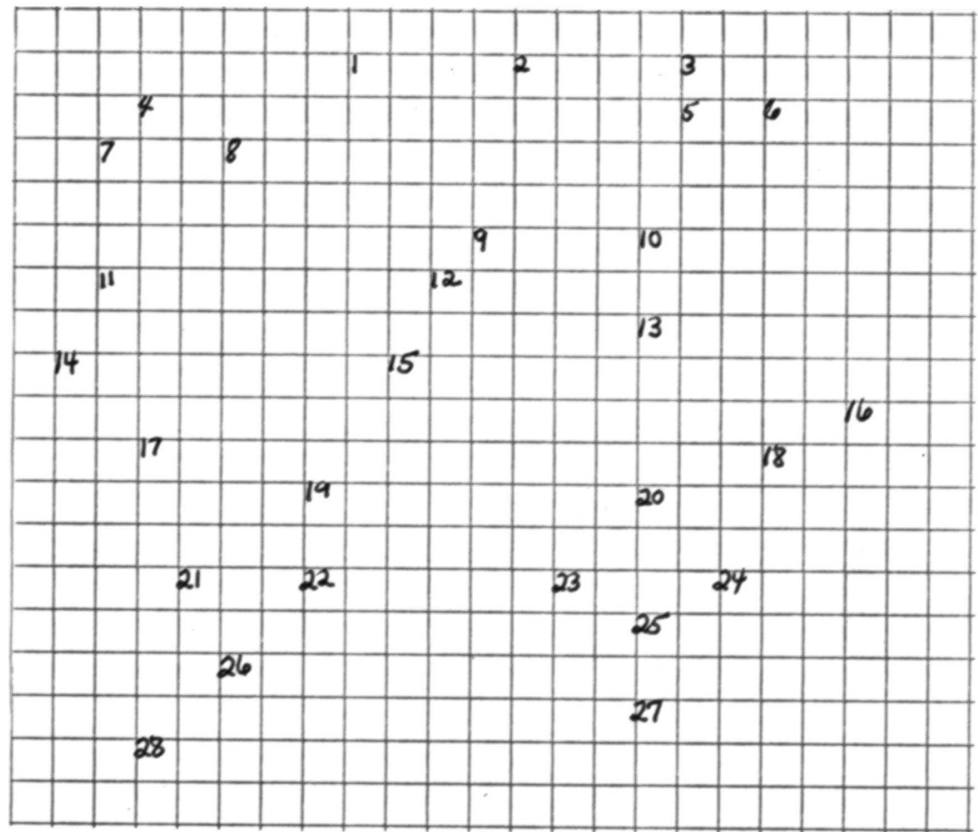
1. Plantation where Sarah spent months
2. South Louisiana crop
3. Room where Sarah stayed after her injury
4. Morgan family's summerhouse was here
6. River flowing through Baton Rouge
8. Sarah's new shoes came from this animal
10. Yankee soldiers' home
12. Site of important Louisiana battle
16. Tried to marry Miriam
20. Sarah missed having this to drink
22. General Butler's nickname
23. Yankees wore this
24. Place to live

### Across

1. Bayou State
5. What you are called
7. Confederate general who led attack on Baton Rouge
9. Confederate ironclad ship
11. What Sarah heard at the door
13. Nature's alarm clock
14. Made with flour
15. He tried to kiss Sarah
17. Sarah's sister with five children
18. What Sarah felt when thrown from buggy
19. Color of Sarah's hair
20. Something you do to wood
21. Sarah's wounded brother
25. Used to make bread
26. Capital of Louisiana
27. Union ironclad ship
28. Sarah's favorite pastime



CSA COL. OF  
ENGINEERS  
FULL DRESS



## Review Questions



1. Why was Baton Rouge easily taken by Union forces?
2. Where were Sarah's brothers?
3. Name the two Union generals who commanded during Baton Rouge's occupation. How were they different?
4. How were the citizens' lives affected by the war?
5. What did Sarah pack in her first "treasure bag"?
6. Why was Sarah's pet bird so important to her?
7. What were her feelings when Yankee soldiers attended service at her church?
8. What was her reaction when the gunboat began firing on the town?
9. The Morgan women also came under the fire of criticism. Explain why.
10. Describe Sarah's "perfect man."
11. When thrown from the buggy, what was Sarah's chief concern?
12. Describe life at Linwood Plantation while Sarah and Miriam were there.
13. What do you think of Sarah's solution to taking the oath of allegiance in New Orleans?
14. Despite suffering and loss, Sarah always seemed to "bounce back." What kept her going?

## Answers

### TRUE/FALSE

1. False – Both sides used a draft.
2. True – Lincoln had 4 brothers-in-law fighting for the Confederacy.
3. False – Confederate soldiers wore whatever they had; many uniforms were butternut colored.
4. True – Clemens briefly served in a Missouri regiment.
5. False – The Marine Corps was formed during the Revolutionary War.
6. False – Many of Louisiana's men fought in Virginia and other states.
7. True
8. True
9. True
10. False – Estimates were 110,000 Union and 94,000 Confederate dead.
11. True – A hot-air balloon
12. False – Gettysburg
13. False – About twice as many soldiers died from disease.
14. False – A majority were buried in unmarked graves.
15. False – Desertion was a major problem.

### REMEDIES

1. c
2. d
3. g
4. h
5. f
6. b
7. e
8. a

### CROSSWORD

#### Down

1. Linwood
2. Sugarcane
3. Anna's
4. Greenwell
6. Mississippi
8. Crocodile
10. North
12. Port Hudson
16. Will
20. Coffee
22. Beast
23. Blue
24. House

#### Across

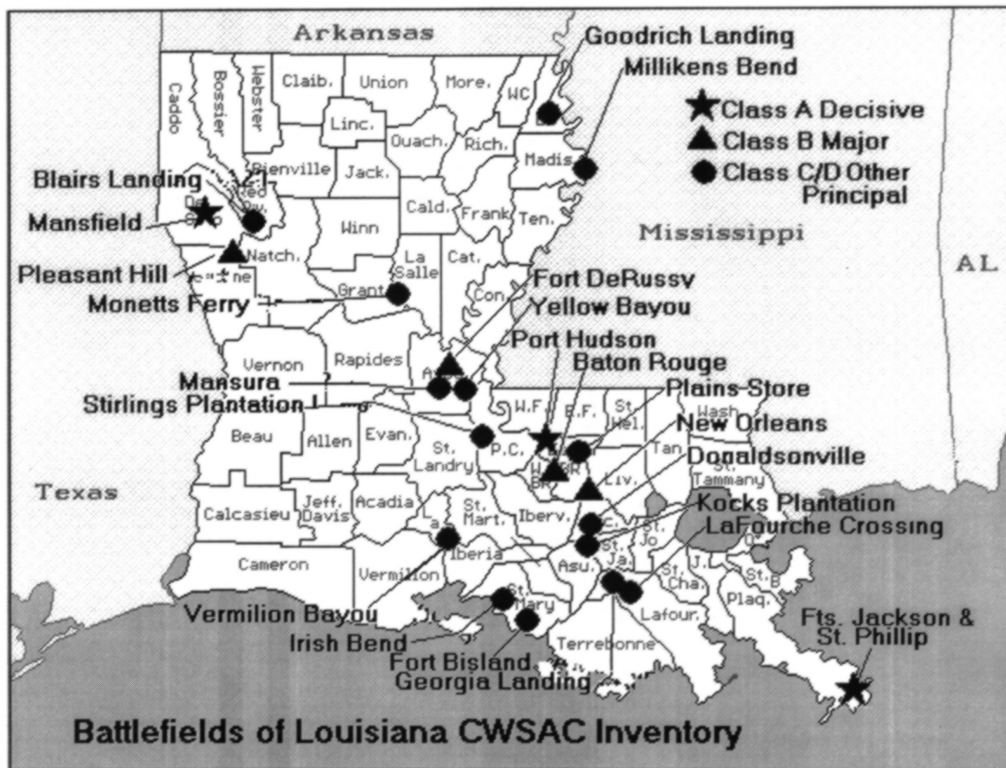
1. Louisiana
5. Name
7. Breckenridge
9. Arkansas
11. Knock
13. Rooster
14. Bread
15. Frank
17. Lily
18. Pain
19. Auburn
20. Chop
21. Gibbes
25. Flour
26. Baton Rouge
27. Essex
28. Writing

### REVIEW

1. Most of the men were fighting in other places. (p. 20)
2. George and Gibbes in Virginia, Jimmy and Judge Philip Morgan in New Orleans. (p. 14, 170)
3. Williams was thoughtful, a gentlemen, while Butler was cruel and oppressive. (p. 62, 75)
4. They endured limited freedom, shortages of food and most goods, tension, and surveillance.
5. A diary, four letters, prayer books, a pistol, and a knife, to be carried under her skirt. (p. 15)
6. It was named for her brother Jimmy. (p. 37)
7. She was shocked, outraged, afraid, then confused and thoughtful. (p. 27)
8. While others panicked, Sarah was calm and detached. (p. 39)
9. The Morgans were criticized for sending food and bandages to a wounded Yankee officer. (p.67)
10. Intelligent, respectable, amiable, kind, brave, well traveled, generous, willing to work. (p. 85)
11. Did her ankles show? (p. 131)
12. Life at Linwood was almost normal, with more food available and social activity. (p. 119)
13. [Thought questions] (p. 169)
14. “ “



## Louisiana Civil War Map of Battles



- April 16-28, 1862 Fort Jackson/ Fort St. Phillip
- April 25–May 1, 1862 New Orleans
- August 5, 1862, Baton Rouge/Magnolia Cemetery
- October 27, 1862 Georgia Landing/Labadieville/Texana
- April 12-13, 1863 Fort Bisland/Bethel Place
- April 14, 1863 Irish Bend/Nerson's Woods/Franklin
- April 17, 1863 Vermillion Bayou
- May 21, 1863 Plains Store/Springfield Road
- May 21-July 9, 1863 Port Hudson
- June 7, 1863 Milliken's Bend
- June 20-21, 1863 LaFourche Crossing
- June 28, 1863 Donaldsonville
- June 29-30, 1863 Goodrich Landing/The Mounds/Lake Providence
- July 12-13, 1863 Kock's Plantation/ Cox's Plantation
- September 29, 1863 Stirling's Plantation/Fordoch Bridge
- March 14, 1864 Fort DeRussy

April 8, 1864 Mansfield/Sabine Cross-Roads/Pleasant Grove

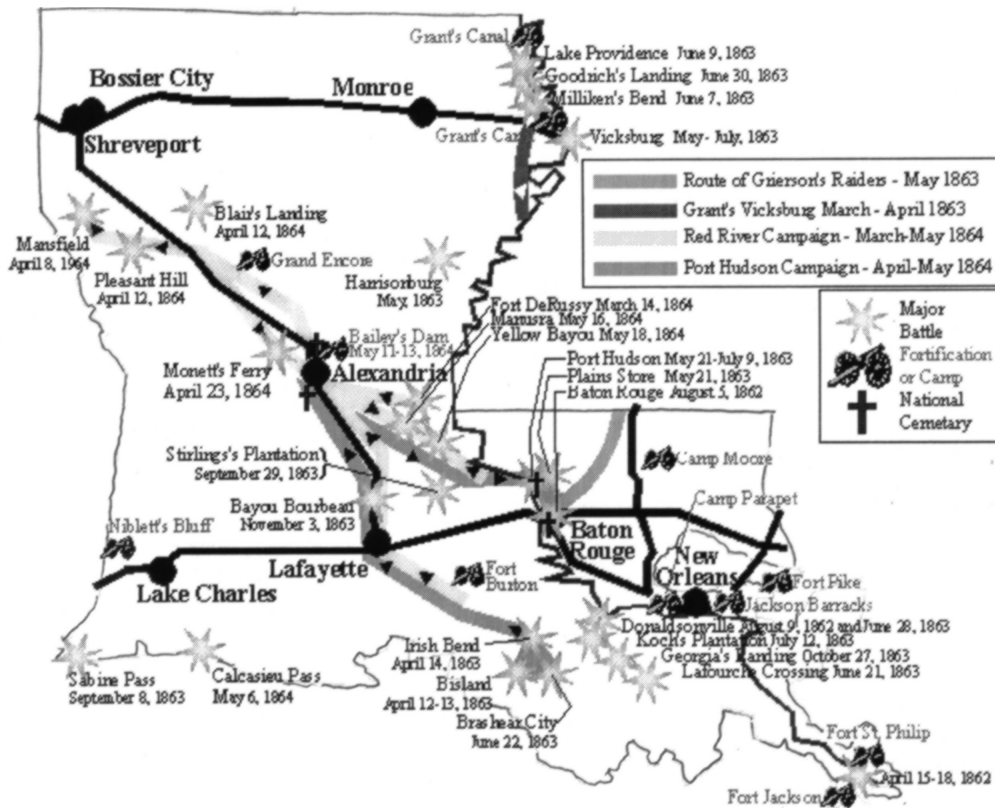
April 9, 1864 Pleasant Hill

April 12-13, 1864 Blair's Landing/Pleasant Hill Landing

April 23, 1864 Monett's Ferry/Cane River Crossing

May 16, 1864 Mansura/Smith's Place/Marksville

May 18, 1864 Yellow Bayou/Norwood's Plantation



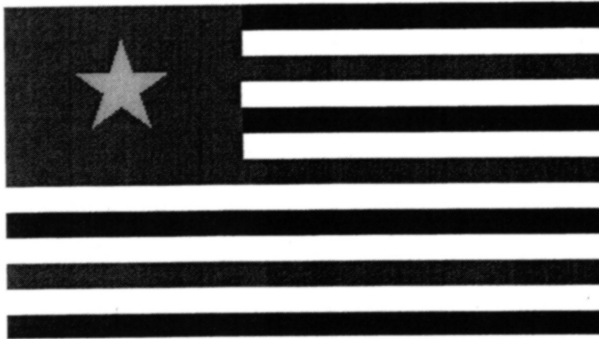
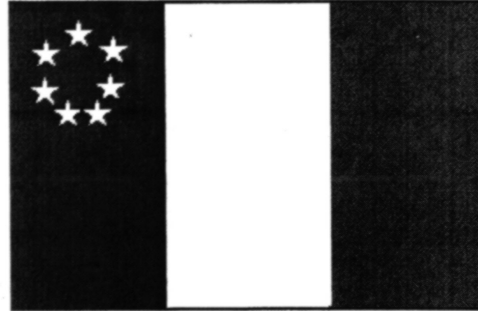
Source: <http://www.crt.state.la.us/crt/tourism/civilwar/cwmap.htm>



Louisiana State Flag

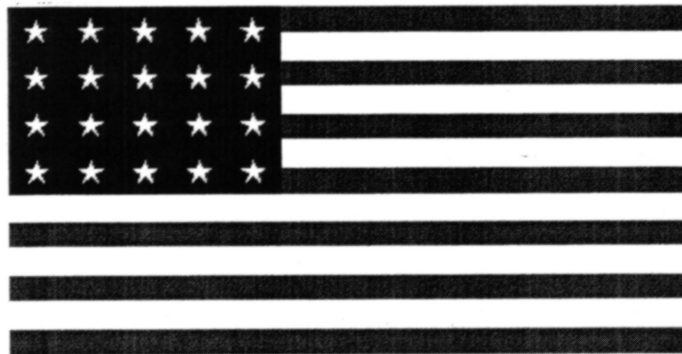
## Flags of Civil War Louisiana

One of the many early flags of Louisiana. This flag (right) was flown in January of 1861. It never had official status.



Louisiana adopted a 13-stripe flag (3 red, 6 white and 4 blue) with a gold star in a red canton on February 11, 1861. The stripes were to represent the French tricolor: The canton was red, with a single gold (pr yellow) star; the colors representing the Spanish colors, the star representing independence. Of course Louisiana was French, and for a time, Spanish.

In 1818, five stars were added to the American flag, representing Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi, Ohio, and Tennessee, bringing the total number of stars to 20. Congress proclaimed that one star for each new state would be added on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July following the state's admission to the Union, and there would be thirteen stripes representing the thirteen original colonies.



# *Yankees on the Doorstep*

## *The Story of Sarah Morgan*

*“A tale of perseverance and fortitude, this book is an articulate and lively account of the [Civil War] from a non-combatant’s viewpoint. It will be a valuable resource to students interested in learning more about everyday life and attitudes in the South during the Civil War.”*

*--Children’s Literature*

The Civil War is rarely shown through a young Southern woman’s perspective. Many of these women were displaced from their homes and lived their lives on the run from Northern shellfire. They witnessed war firsthand without ever going to battle. Sarah Morgan was one of those women. She was only twenty years old when the North took over her hometown of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, but she wrote about her experiences in her diaries, with insight and clarity well beyond her years.

In this novel, Debra West Smith uses Sarah Morgan’s diaries to tell young adults her story of courage and survival during the war that divided the nation. Sarah was forced to move from place to place and suffered a debilitating injury during her experience, but she persevered through it all. She faced issues that many people never consider when thinking about the Civil War. There was a dilemma over what to do with her pet bird as the Yankees approached and also about whether or not to accept much-needed food from Yankee soldiers at the risk of being branded a traitor by the Southerners. Sarah Morgan poured her heart and soul into her diaries as a way to cope with her situations, and Smith uses many of Sarah’s own words to bring this story alive for today’s young adults.

### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Debra West Smith has been named to the Louisiana State Artist Roster in recognition of her excellent school and library presentations about local history and culture. A member of the Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators, she is also the author of Pelican’s *Hattie Marshall and the Hurricane* (\$7.95 pb) and *Hattie Marshall and the Prowling Panther* (\$7.95 pb).

### **YANKEES ON THE DOORSTEP**

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**Ages 8-12**

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