



**The Story of the Maine Fifteenth; Being a Brief
Narrative of the More Important Events in the
History of the Fifteenth Maine Regiment; Together
with a**

Henry Augustus Shorey

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This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1890 edition. Excerpt: ...all the troops of the expedition excepting Kilby Smith's Division, which was still exercising a military protectorate over the naval vessels and transports a few miles up the river. We were the recognized masters of the situation save in one very essential particular--the waters of the Red River still stubbornly refused to indulge in the annual spring freshet. The rebels had diverted important sources of supply of this river to other channels, and for the first time in twenty years the stream was unnavigable above Alexandria. The army might at any time have taken possession of Shreveport--that is, the army as a whole, its various detachments within supporting distance of each other--but to have done so with the naval vessels aground would have been at the risk of surrendering to the enemy a fleet of vessels constituting the bulk of Admiral Porter's Mississippi squadron, and much relied upon in that important section of military and naval operations. Useless and even burdensome as the vessels had all along been to us, there seemed very little disposition to encumber the rebels with any of them, they being supposed to have a sufficiency of troubles of their own! And speaking of the Navy, what of that portion of it which ascended the river in conjunction with the military movement against Shreveport? Like the army they found " the Red" a hard road to travel. Gen. T. K. Smith, with about two thousand soldiers, had taken charge of the river transportation, with directions to conduct it up the Red River to the mouth of Ixiggy Bayou, opposite Springfield, at which point Gen. Banks expected to be able to connect with the boats and obtain necessary supplies, overland from Mansfield. There were twenty-six large vessels, most of them drawing six...

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