

# Civil War Book Review

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Spring 2002

Article 6

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## Annotations

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## ANNOTATIONS

**Early, Jubal A.**  
**Spring 2002**

**Early, Jubal A.** *A Memoir of the Last Year of the War of Independence in the Confederate States of America.* University of South Carolina Press, \$12.95 ISBN 1570034508

Jubal A. Early's autobiography was one of the first major war biographies printed by either side after the war. Devoted to redress issues of southern defeat, Early's work provides a look at war scenes, politics, and templates for rethinking the South. This reprint features a new introduction from noted historian Gary W. Gallagher.

**Mesker, James P.**  
**Spring 2002**

**Mesker, James P.** *A Practical Guide to Collecting Civil War.* White Mane, \$9.95 ISBN 1572491434

This guide gives the reader an idea of where to look, how much to pay, and how to keep mistakes to a minimum when collecting Civil War memorabilia. Emphasis is placed on recognizing the value of items, the importance of primary sources, and how to collect period representations.

**Gienapp, William E.**  
**Spring 2002**

**Gienapp, William E.** *Abraham Lincoln and Civil War America: A Biography.* Oxford University Press, \$25.00 ISBN 19515996

This succinct but scholarly new interpretation of Lincoln centers on the Civil War but does not neglect his progression from a poor farm boy to the presidency. Gienapp includes the latest scholarship in this readable account.

**Buckingham, Peter H.**

**Spring 2002**

**Buckingham, Peter H.** *All's for the Best: The Civil War Reminiscences and Letters of Daniel W. Sawtelle, Eighth Maine Volunteer Infantry.* University of Tennessee, \$34.00 (hardcover) ISBN 1572331364

The latest installment of the Voices of the Civil War series, this set of letters details the services and contributions of a young Maine soldier in the Eastern theater. Most important are Sawtelle's perspectives on racial issues and his description of southern Reconstruction following the war.

**Thomsen, Brian**

**Greenberg, Martin H.**

**Spring 2002**

**Thomsen, Brian and Greenberg, Martin H.** *Alternate Gettysburg: Original Versions of a Civil War That Might Have Been.* Berkley Publishing Group, \$6.99 ISBN 425183777

What if? This is the question that entices historians and history buffs to ponder all aspects that come together to make the moments of history. Thomsen and Greenberg offer a collection of stories dealing with the possible outcomes at Gettysburg.

**Segars, J.H.**

**Spring 2002**

**Segars, J.H.** *Andersonville: The Southern Perspective.* Pelican, \$17.95 hardcover ISBN 1565549368

While there has been much written about Andersonville, this book presents seldom seen documentation from the Confederates familiar with the camp, as well as discussions by contemporary historians.

**Griffith, Paddy**  
**Spring 2002**

**Griffith, Paddy** *Battle Tactics of the Civil War*. Yale University Press, \$15.95  
ISBN 300084617

The author argues, in this detailed examination of tactics, that despite the use of new weapons and of trench warfare techniques, the Civil War was in reality the last Napoleonic-style war.

**Parson, Thomas E.**  
**Spring 2002**

**Parson, Thomas E.** *Bear Flag and Bay State in the Civil War: The Californians of the Second Massachusetts Cavalry*. McFarland & Company, \$42.50 ISBN 786411228

The Second Massachusetts Cavalry included the only organized group from California to fight in the east during the Civil War, most notably in Sheridan's Army of the Shenandoah. An examination of how the men of California and Massachusetts viewed themselves as a unit is also presented.

**LeClercq, Anne Sinkler Whaley**  
**Spring 2002**

**LeClercq, Anne Sinkler Whaley** *Between North and South: The Letters of Emily Wharton Sinkler, 1842-1865*. University of South Carolina Press, \$29.95  
ISBN 1570034125

Sinkler's letters ring with keen insights into Southern society and offer a definitive account of a young woman transplanted to the South in 1842 through the Civil War. The correspondence conveys the rich and varied details of this divisive era.

**Barrow, Charles Kelley  
Segars, J.H.  
Rosenburg, B.R.  
Spring 2002**

**Barrow, Charles Kelley, Segars, J.H., and Rosenburg, B.R..** *Black Confederates: An Anthology about Black Southerners*. Pelican, \$17.95 softcover ISBN 1565549376

This volume reflects an effort to restore some accuracy to the historical record with regard to black soldiers who fought for the Confederacy. Correspondence, military records, narrative reminiscences, and newspaper accounts are used to supplement the essays.

**Kadzis, Peter  
Spring 2002**

**Kadzis, Peter** *Blood: Stories of Life and Death from the Civil War (audio)*. Listen and Live Audio, Inc., \$24.95 ISBN 188540865x

From tragic charges to prison escapes to the desolation wrought on those who stayed behind, this is an extraordinary collection of reminiscences, fiction, and excerpts from diaries and letters by an array of soldiers, writers, and observers.

**Gower, Herschel  
Spring 2002**

**Gower, Herschel** *Charles Dahlgren of Natchez: The Civil War and Dynastic Decline*. Basseys's, \$26.95 hardcover ISBN 1574883941

The author uses extensive research in diaries, memoirs, and papers to convey the story of the daily life of a cotton planter and slave owner in Mississippi and Louisiana through the lens of Charles Dahlgren, a native Pennsylvanian. Dahlgren fought for the South during the war despite his northern roots.

**Thillmann, John H.**

**Spring 2002**

**Thillmann, John H.** *Civil War Cavalry and Artillery Sabers: A Study of the United States Cavalry and Artillery Sabers, 1833-1865 (including the influential prewar decades)*. Andrew Mowbray Publishers, \$79.95 ISBN 917218922

Collectors and historians alike will be interested in this comprehensive catalogue of Civil War Cavalry and Artillery Sabers. John H. Thillmann provides background for the evolution of these weapons as well as photographs focusing on the detailed differences between them.

**Thompson Jr., Kenneth E.**

**Spring 2002**

**Thompson Jr., Kenneth E.** *Civil War Commodores and Admirals*. Thompson Group, \$24.50 ISBN 967765021

A biographical directory of all 88 Union and Confederate navy officers who attained commissioned flag rank. This exhaustive reference tool corrects errors found on this subject in reference books.

**Thompson Jr., Kenneth E.**

**Spring 2002**

**Thompson Jr., Kenneth E.** *Civil War Maine Hall of Fame*. Thompson Group, \$18.50 ISBN 967765013

This encyclopedic survey and directory of 446 individuals represents a unique contribution to Maine's Civil War history. From Hannibal Hamlin to James G. Blaine, the state's military, political, and judicial leaders of the period are annotated.

**Davis, Charles**

**Spring 2002**

**Davis, Charles** *Clark's Regiments: An Extended Index to the Histories of the Several Regiments and Battalions from North Carolina in the Great War 1861-1865*. Pelican, \$40.00 ISBN 1565549384

Conceived as a companion volume to the Histories of the Several Regiments and Battalions from North Carolina in the Great War 1861-1865, edited by Walter Clark, this index lists every aspect of North Carolina's participation. It is a valuable resource for students, genealogists, and historians.

**Flanders, Alan B.  
Campbell, R. Thomas**  
**Spring 2002**

**Flanders, Alan B. and Campbell, R. Thomas.** *Confederate Phoenix: The CSS Virginia*. Burd Street Press, \$34.95 hardcover ISBN 1572492015

Campbell and Flanders offer the most complete and accurate account of this famous warship. Using previously unpublished sources, the authors have pieced together an account of her design, construction, commitment to battle, and destruction.

**Burke, Peter**  
**Spring 2002**

**Burke, Peter** *Eyewitnessing: The Uses of Images as Historical Evidence*. Cornell University Press, \$35.00 hardcover ISBN 080143968x

This is a lively introduction to the use of visual evidence in history. The selections are well chosen and the judgments insightful. The focus is directed toward the role art plays in the shaping of historical consciousness.

**Wynne, Lewis N.  
Taylor, Robert A.**

**Spring 2002**

**Wynne, Lewis N. and Taylor, Robert A.** *Florida in the Civil War*. Arcadia Publishing, \$29.99 ISBN : 0738513687

This study examines the unique role that Florida played during the Civil War. Along with descriptions of occurrences within the state, the 15,000 Floridians in armies stationed elsewhere are chronicled.

**McWhiney, Grady**  
**Spring 2002**

**McWhiney, Grady** *Grant, Lee, Lincoln and the Radicals: Essays on Civil War Leadership*. Louisiana State University Press, \$12.95 ISBN 807127426

A reprint of the 1964 edition, this paperback classic, featuring a new introduction and preface, revives the work of four of the "big guns" in Civil War scholarship. Essays by Bruce Catton, Charles P. Roland, David Herbert Donald, and T. Harry Williams are included.

**McBride, Dwight A.**  
**Spring 2002**

**McBride, Dwight A.** *Impossible Witnesses: Truth, Abolitionism, and Slave Testimony*. New York University Press, \$55.00 ISBN 814756042

A highly theoretical work, this text looks at the rhetorical conventions surrounding the discussion and presentation of slavery from the colonization of America to the Civil War. Dwight A. McBride covers slavery in speeches, newspaper accounts, and noted biographies such as the Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass.

**Blackwell Jr., Samuel M.**  
**Spring 2002**



**Blackwell Jr., Samuel M.** *In the First Line of Battle: The 12th Illinois Cavalry in the Civil War.* Northern Illinois University Press, \$35.00 ISBN 875802796

The men of the 12th served in every theater, in every capacity, throughout the war and beyond, standing guard in the conquered South during Reconstruction. Blackwell follows the regiment at high gallop through their beginnings as eager soldiers seeking a quick end to war, to experienced warriors still on duty after Appamattox.

**Meade, Robert Douthat**  
**Spring 2002**

**Meade, Robert Douthat** *Judah P. Benjamin: Confederate Statesman.* Louisiana State University Press, \$17.95 ISBN 807127442

This classic study of the so-called "brains of the Confederacy" has yet to be bested. The subject himself is one of the most interesting and least understood figures of the era. Was he Davis's confidante or was his only loyalty to himself? This edition also features a foreword by William C. Davis.

**Perry, John**  
**Spring 2002**

**Perry, John** *Lady of Arlington: The Life of Mrs. Robert E. Lee.* Multnomah Publishers, \$19.95 hardcover ISBN 1576738493

History has not always been kind to Mary Custis Lee, and the author sets about changing that perception. She is portrayed as a fascinating and inspiring woman: a painter, patriot, authors, hostess, devout Christian, mother of seven, and loving wife. Lee's life is ultimately viewed as a timeless example of triumph in the face of desolation and loss.

**White, Ronald C.**  
**Spring 2002**

**White, Ronald C.** *Lincoln's Greatest Speech: The Second Inaugural.* Simon & Schuster, \$23.00 ISBN 743212983

Long overshadowed by his speech at Gettysburg, Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address is revealed here to be the masterpiece of a great leader. In it he blames the whole nation for the War and, most importantly, offers a moral framework for peace and reconciliation.

**Ward, Geoffrey C.  
Duncan, Dayton  
Burns, Ken  
Spring 2002**

**Ward, Geoffrey C., Duncan, Dayton, and Burns, Ken.** *Mark Twain: An Illustrated Biography.* Alfred A. Knopf, \$40.00 ISBN 375405615

This work is a companion piece to a PBS documentary on the life of Mark Twain. It is lavishly illustrated with period photos, and features contributions from such Twain admirers as Hal Holbrook and Russell Banks.

**Pflueger, Lynda  
Spring 2002**

**Pflueger, Lynda** *Mathew Brady: Photographer of the Civil War.* Enslow Publishers, \$20.95 ISBN 766014444

One of the 41 titles in Enslow's Historical American Biographies series, this installment details the life and works of Mathew Brady, the renowned photographer. It is written for an intermediate student audience.

**Calore, Paul  
Spring 2002**

**Calore, Paul** *Naval Campaigns of the Civil War*. McFarland & Company, Inc., \$35.00 ISBN 786412178

This work provides a compelling analysis of naval engagements during the Civil War. Paul Calore reveals the maritime problems facing both sides and their efforts to overcome those problems and win the war.

**Ambrose, Stephen E.**  
**Spring 2002**

**Ambrose, Stephen E.** *Nothing Like It in the World: The Men Who Built the Transcontinental Railroad, 1863-1869*. Simon & Schuster, \$16.00 ISBN 743203178

This best seller is now available in paperback. It is a highly acclaimed account of the men who built the railroad - from the financiers to the Irish, Chinese, and defeated Confederate soldiers who laid down the tracks. See the Spring 2001 issue of Civil War Book Review for James D. Hardy Jr.'s review of the hardcover edition.

**Hess, Earl J.**  
**Spring 2002**

**Hess, Earl J.** *Pickett's Charge: The Last Attack at Gettysburg*. University of North Carolina Press, \$34.95 hardcover ISBN 807826480

This authoritative history of Pickett's Charge describes the battle as it occurred, not from the perspective of memory as has been recently the case. Hess demonstrates that the Charge is both a case study in how soldiers deal with combat and a dramatic episode of heroism, failure, and fate.

**Winter, William**  
**Spring 2002**

**Winter, William** *Possum: A Novel of the American Civil War*. Krummholz Press, \$12.95 ISBN 967874505

This story of a soldier attempting to escape the Civil War by seeking refuge in a swamp that (that was not in the issue) was handed down to the author as family folklore. Guided by that oral tradition, Winter mixes in flashes of humor while sketching a vision of the war rarely seen.

**Marcotte, Frank B.**  
**Spring 2002**

**Marcotte, Frank B.** *Private Osborne: Massachusetts 23rd Volunteers, Burnside Expedition, Roanoke Island, Second Front Against Richmond*. Pelican, \$16.95 ISBN 1565549651

Frank B. Marcotte weaves Osborne's letters and diaries into a narrative account of the campaigns in which he fought. In addition to particularly strong descriptions of campaigns in the tidewater of southwest Virginia, young Osborne details the privations and hardships of camp life as well as its camaraderie.

**Sutton, Robert K.**  
**Spring 2002**

**Sutton, Robert K.** *Rally on the High Ground: The National Park Service Symposium on the Civil War*. Eastern National Press, \$6.95 ISBN 1888213728

The papers from the May 2000 symposium sponsored by the National Park Service on the ways in which battlefields can be made to be more relevant to the public. Speeches and correspondence with the audience are all included. Keynote speakers ranged from the academic (James McPherson and Eric Foner) to the political (Jesse Jackson Jr.).

**Fisher, Garry**  
**Spring 2002**

**Fisher, Garry** *Rebel Cornbread and Yankee Coffee: Authentic Civil War Cooking and Camaraderie*. Crane Hill Publishers, \$11.95 ISBN 1575871750

Author Garry Fisher explores the common experiences shared by average soldiers on both sides during their time off the Civil War battlefields, including the food they loved and hated, the songs they sang, and the pranks they played.

**Matzko, John**  
**Spring 2002**

**Matzko, John** *Reconstructing Fort Union*. University of Nebraska Press, \$45.00 ISBN 803232160

John Matzko digs deep to unearth the history and discord surrounding the use and rebuilding of Fort Union. He begins with a history of the fort's construction and service as a trading post and proceeds to contemporary times to document the trials and political conflicts of gaining congressional authorization for the reconstruction of this American landmark.

**Reisberg, Joanne A.**  
**Spring 2002**

**Reisberg, Joanne A.** *Save the Colors: A Civil War Battle Cry*. White Mane Kids, \$5.95 ISBN 1572492473

A tale of a 12-year-old drummer boy's odyssey from his home in Minnesota to the battlefield at First Bull Run. It is a well-researched story that is aimed at middle-grade students interested in history.

**Morris Jr., Roy**  
**Spring 2002**

**Morris Jr., Roy** *The Better Angel: Walt Whitman in the Civil War*. Oxford University Press, \$15.95 ISBN 019514709x

This is a critically acclaimed account of Walt Whitman's profound experiences during the Civil War years. The time Whitman spent touring the field hospitals, consoling the wounded and dying, and experiencing the horrors of war in general proved to be a turning point in his life. See our August-October 2000 issue for a full review.

**Floyd, William C.  
Gibson, Paul  
Spring 2002**

**Floyd, William C. and Gibson, Paul.** *The Boys Who Went to War From Cumberland University: 1861-1865.* Thomas Publications, \$24.95 hardcover ISBN 1577470788

This collection provides photos and Civil War military biographies for those men who left the ivory tower for the battlefield. This work provides a graphic representation of the conflicting pressures of war.

**Watson, William  
Spring 2002**

**Watson, William** *The Civil War Adventures of a Blockade Runner.* Texas A&M; University Press, \$17.95 ISBN 158544152x

The story of a British blockade-runner written in a spellbinding manner that is reminiscent of Horatio Hornblower novels. This work of nonfiction is a result of Captain William Watson's recollections, logs, and diaries of his exploits on the seas during the war.

**Carbone, John S.  
Spring 2002**

**Carbone, John S.** *The Civil War in Coastal North Carolina.* Military, \$18.00 ISBN 865262977

From the drama of blockade running to graphic descriptions of battles on the state's islands and sounds, this book portrays the explosive events that took place along the North Carolina coast during the Civil War.

**Evans, Curtis J.**  
**Spring 2002**

**Evans, Curtis J.** *The Conquest of Labor: Daniel Pratt and Southern Industrialization.* Louisiana State University Press, \$49.95 ISBN 807126950

Curtis J. Evans creates the first biography of this important New Hampshire native turned Southern industrialist. Pratt's cotton gins included the largest in the world by the eve of the Civil War and became a household name in cotton-growing states. Prattville, the site of his operations, was one of the South's most celebrated early manufacturing towns.

**Goodrich, Thomas**  
**Goodrich, Debra**  
**Spring 2002**

**Goodrich, Thomas and Goodrich, Debra.** *The Day Dixie Died: Southern Occupation, 1865-1866.* Stackpole, \$26.95 ISBN 811704874

Starting with Lincoln's assassination and continuing through the summer of 1866, the authors detail the beginning of Reconstruction from the perspective of the occupiers and the occupied.

**Tucker, Phillip Thomas**  
**Spring 2002**

**Tucker, Phillip Thomas** *The Final Fury Palmito Ranch: The Last Battle of the Civil War.* Stackpole, \$26.95 ISBN 811706524

Fought along the banks of the Rio Grande in Texas, this last battle of the Civil War---a Confederate victory---has largely been forgotten. The author,

Phillip Thomas Tucker, rescues the battle and its participants from obscurity.

**McMurry, Richard M.**

**Spring 2002**

**McMurry, Richard M.** *The Fourth Battle of Winchester: Toward a New Civil War Paradigm*. Kent State University Press, \$9.95 ISBN 087338721x

Please see print version for full text.

**Bosco, Ronald A.**

**Myerson, Joel**

**Spring 2002**

**Bosco, Ronald A. and Myerson, Joel.** *The Later Lectures of Ralph Waldo Emerson, 1843-1871 (2 volumes)*. University of Georgia Press, \$130.00 ISBN 820322954

Drawn from the last untapped body of Emerson's manuscripts, these volumes present the texts of 48 complete and unpublished lectures that he delivered during the crucial middle years of his career. Emerson offers opinions on slavery, abolition, and issues that galvanized the country.

**Forsyth, Michael J.**

**Spring 2002**

**Forsyth, Michael J.** *The Red River Campaign of 1864 and the Loss by the Confederacy of the Civil War*. McFarland & Company, \$35.00 ISBN 078641118x

Although this campaign is viewed as a Southern victory, it has generally been regarded as an insignificant action in terms of contribution to the outcome of the war. Forsyth, in his reexamination of the Union offensive, argues that the South had - and lost - an excellent opportunity to inflict a decisive defeat that might have changed the course of history.



**Longy, E.B.**  
**Spring 2002**

**Longy, E.B.** *The Saints and the Union: Utah Territory during the Civil War.* University of Illinois Press, \$18.95 ISBN 252070119

Largely written in terms of Utah's two principal figures during the War, Brigham Young and the Irishman General Patrick Edward Connor, this history comes straight from the sources. This is an important piece in the puzzle of understanding the Civil War in the West.

**Swanson, Clifford L.**  
**Spring 2002**

**Swanson, Clifford L.** *The Sixth United States Infantry Regiment, 1855 to Reconstruction.* McFarland & Company, \$65.00 hardcover ISBN 786410019

A history of a regular U.S. Infantry Regiment whose duties ranged from protecting settlers and clearing the frontier to participation in Civil War battles through Gettysburg and an important role in reconstruction efforts in the South after the war. The book emphasizes the plight of the common soldier and the biographies of the officers.

**Krick, Robert K.**  
**Spring 2002**

**Krick, Robert K.** *The Smoothbore Volley That Doomed the Confederacy: The Death of Stonewall Jackson and Other Chapters on the Army of Northern Virginia.* Louisiana State University Press, \$34.95 hardcover ISBN 807127477

A collection of provocative and sometimes controversial essays that represent some of Krick's profoundest insights on the Army of Northern Virginia and its battles, controversies, and personalities.

**Waldstreicher, David**  
**Spring 2002**

**Waldstreicher, David** *The Struggle Against Slavery: A History in Documents*. Oxford University Press, \$32.95 ISBN 195108507

The latest installment in the Pages from History series is a collection of primary sources documenting the peculiar institution's impact on American history. It is an amply illustrated and narrated source book that is ideal for more mature younger readers.

**Motorbooks International**  
**Spring 2002**

**Motorbooks International** *The Timechart of the Civil War*. MBI Publishing Company, \$17.98 ISBN 760311226

Which came first, Sheridan's Valley Campaign or Spotsylvania? Complete with photos, fold-out charts, and fact-finder, this quick reference guide provides a concise look at the chronology of the Civil War. Colorful illustrations and maps tracking troop movements help create a small version of the saga of Civil War.

**Pena, Christopher**  
**Spring 2002**

**Pena, Christopher** *The Times and Journal of Alice Farmer*. C.G.P. Press, \$28.50 hardcover ISBN 966728718

Alice Farmer's journal tells the trails of northern sympathy in the heartland of the Confederacy. Through her works as a nurse in New Orleans, Farmer also provides a window into the land of hospitals and early Civil War health care. Editor Christopher Pena provides helpful notes, documentations, photos, and maps.

**Willsy, Brian Steel**  
**Spring 2002**

**Willsy, Brian Steel** *The War Hits Home: The Civil War in Southeastern Virginia*. University Press of Virginia, \$34.95 ISBN 813920272

A praiseworthy account of an embattled, but often neglected, part of Virginia. It sheds considerable light on the civilians, slaves, and soldiers from the region in addition to chronicling the not insignificant military campaigns fought on its soil.

**Gienapp, William E.**  
**Spring 2002**

**Gienapp, William E.** *This Fiery Trial: The Speeches and Writings of Abraham Lincoln*. Oxford University Press, \$25.00 ISBN 195151062

This anthology covers the eloquent, amusing, and often profound writings of the wartime president. Over 100 of Lincoln's pieces are included, ranging from his first published political statement to his final political address.

**Patch, Eileen Mae Knapp**  
**Spring 2002**

**Patch, Eileen Mae Knapp** *This From George: The Civil War Letters of Sergeant George Magusta Englis, 1861-1865, Company K, 89th New York Regiment of Volunteer Infantry known as the Dickinson Guard*. Broome County Historical Society, \$25.00 ISBN 1930484038

The "this" George offers is a common soldier's perspective of the war. From training at Elmira to the Appomattox Campaign Sergeant George Englis recorded his experiences in letters to his family. Eileen M Knapp Patch offers notes on Englis's references as well as numerous maps, photos, original documentation in order to record his service.

**King, David C.**  
**Spring 2002**

**King, David C.** *Triangle Histories: The Civil War*. Blackbirch Press, \$19.95 hardcover ISBN 1567115543

Covering various battles and leaders of the Civil War era, the Triangle Histories are a series of interrelated and overlapping biographies and narratives written for juveniles. Various authors compose the 11 studies that currently constitute the series. Each book stands alone, but as a set the overlapping elements of each form a powerful and engaging way in which children can substantively learn about the war.

**Wittenberg, Eric J., ed.**  
**Spring 2002**

**Wittenberg, Eric J., ed.** *Under Custer's Command: The Civil War Journal of James Henry Avery*. Brassey's, \$16.95 ISBN 1574884085

This work provides a look into the life of a Civil War cavalryman from Michigan. This journal offers a very readable account of what it was like to be a part of the Fifth Michigan Cavalry as one of General George Armstrong Custer's feared "Wolverines".

**Wilson, John P.**  
**Spring 2002**

**Wilson, John P.** *When the Texans Came: Missing Records from the Civil War in the Southwest, 1861-1862*. University of New Mexico Press, \$39.95 ISBN 826322905

Newly-available records, drawn from both Union and Confederate sources, give a much-improved understanding of that period through the words of those who shaped and participated in events at that time.