

A New Beginning

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Editorial

A NEW BEGINNING

Fava, Colleen H.

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On behalf of the previous editors, the U.S. Civil War Center, and myself I would like to thank Michael Zibart and the BookPage team for their commitment to this publication over the last few years. It is with regret, for both parties, that our publishing partnership has been dissolved.

As most of our readership is already aware, the slowed economy has not been kind to the *Civil War Book Review*. Due to financial difficulties, this may be the final print issue. Members of the Review staff, the United States Civil War Center, and Louisiana State University Libraries continue to work hard to pursue avenues that may save our fine publication. Temporary on-line only venture appears to be a viable option but as of yet our destiny remains unknown. We will continue to keep you updated and to seek your suggestions and assistance with what lies ahead. I would like to thank those of you who have offered financial and professional support. The commitment of reviewers and subscribers alike remains the backbone of our endeavor.

Throughout these pages you will find the usual collection of battle histories, fictional accounts, memoirs, biographies, and political texts. We are featuring an interview with William Jack Davis, the author or editor of more than 40 Civil War publications. The release of his latest book, *The Civil War in Photographs* (Carlton Books, ISBN 184226363, \$39.95, hardcover) led to an interesting discourse on the creation and development of photojournalism. Randal Allred, professor of language, literature, and cultural studies, offers an insightful analysis of the meditation on war at the core of Kent Gramm's *Somebody's Darling* (Indiana University Press, ISBN 0253340810, \$29.95, hardcover). Margaret Harrison explores the history and mystery found within *No Certain Rest* (Random House, ISBN 0375503722, \$23.95, hard-cover), the latest novel by award-winning journalist, television anchor, and author Jim Lehrer.

When Slavery Was Called Freedom: Evangelicalism, Proslavery, and the Causes of the Civil War (University of Kentucky Press, ISBN 0813122414,

\$45.00, hardcover), a study of the theological impacts that shaped Southern perspectives on slave ownership and Providence, is deftly examined by Carolyn Jones, professor of religion and African-American studies. History professor Jason H. Silverman discusses the pedagogical relevancy of the memoir genre in a review of *Surviving the Confederacy: Rebellion, Ruin, and Recovery* Roger and Sara Pryor *During the Civil War* (Harcourt, ISBN 0151003890, \$28.00, hardcover). The latest text from Richard M. McMurry, *The Fourth Battle of Winchester: Toward a New Civil War Paradigm* (The Kent State University Press, ISBN 087338721X, \$9.95, softcover) investigates the role of the West during the war and is assessed here by National Park Service superintendent Dale Phillips.

We are proud to present reviews of two recently published children's books. Carolyn P. Yoder, history editor for *Highlights* magazine, reflects on Mary Garrison's collection of autobiographical slave stories in her book *Slaves Who Dared* (White Mane Kids, ISBN 1572492724, \$19.95, hardcover). And education doctoral candidate and two-time author Julia Rose takes a look at *The Spirit and Gilly Bucket* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, ISBN 0374316775, \$18.00, hardcover), a coming-of-age tale set against plantation life circa 1859.

Because of your unbending support, we have again put together an issue that meets our mission. We will continue to keep you apprised of the future of our publication, and I am eager to receive your letters, calls, or emails regarding any questions, concerns, or suggestions you might have. I also encourage you to visit us at www.cwbr.com. Our website already contains all back issues of the Review, and new information will be posted as we move through this transitional phase toward a new beginning.

Colleen H. Fava

Editor