

Civil War Book Review

Summer 2003

Article 26

Annotations

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Recommended Citation

CWBR_Editor (2003) "Annotations," *Civil War Book Review*. Vol. 5 : Iss. 3 .
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.lsu.edu/cwbr/vol5/iss3/26>

ANNOTATIONS

Zwemer, John
Summer 2003

Zwemer, John *A Civil War Pocket Reader*. Crane Hill Publishers, \$8.95 ISBN 157587167X

A Civil War Pocket Reader is an anthology of excerpts, quotations, and stories from the vast expanse of Civil War literature and lore. Following the war chronologically, these snippets come from generals, privates, and authors alike and provide the Civil War novice with a broad introduction to the human element of the conflict.

Marks, Jeffrey
Summer 2003

Marks, Jeffrey *A Good Soldier*. The Overmountain Press, \$23.95 ISBN 1570722153

Citizen Grant, recently relieved of his obligations to the country, is visiting his native Ohio when the town is plagued by a deadly mystery that threatens to destroy the veterans who survived the war. Grant aims to solve this conundrum in this second installment of the U.S. Grant mystery series.

Sexton, Rebecca Grant, Editor
Summer 2003

Sexton, Rebecca Grant, Editor *A Southern Woman of Letters: The Correspondence of Augusta Jane Evans Wilson*. University of South Carolina Press, \$29.95 ISBN 1570034400

This volume contains 112 letters penned by Augusta Jane Evans Wilson during and after the Civil War. A remarkable writer and Southern stalwart, Wilson had influence throughout the South as her correspondence to such

dignitaries as P.G.T. Beauregard suggests. Wilson was a prolific writer whose works included *Beulah* and *St. Elmo*, the latter rivaling *Ben-Hur* and *Uncle Tom's Cabin* in sales.

Hagedorn, Ann
Summer 2003

Hagedorn, Ann *Beyond the River: The Untold Story of the Heroes of the Underground Railroad*. Simon and Schuster, \$25.00 ISBN 684870657

Utilizing trial records, diaries, letters, and other relevant primary sources of the era, Hagedorn tells the story of the Ripley, Ohio frontline of the Underground Railroad. The text follows tenacious abolitionist John Rankin and his colleagues through the antebellum, Civil War, and Reconstruction eras.

Cannan, John
Summer 2003

Cannan, John *Bloody Angle: Hancock's Assault on the Mule Shoe Salient: May 12, 1864*. Da Capo Press, \$17.50 ISBN 306811510

Seeking to exploit the exposed salient in the Confederate lines during the Battle of Spotsylvania Courthouse, Grant repeatedly threw Hancock's corps at the threatened Confederate defenses. Though a breach was briefly achieved, the nearly 22 hours of assaults were ultimately repulsed. Cannan's study of this episode is part of the Battleground America series that combines concise narrative, modern-day photographs, and detailed maps.

Tucker, Spencer C.
Summer 2003

Tucker, Spencer C. *Brigadier General John D. Imboden: Confederate Commander in the Shenandoah*. University Press of Kentucky, \$32.00 ISBN 081312266X

Tucker Spencer presents this biography of an oft-overlooked Confederate general who performed operations on the geographical periphery of the Eastern campaigns. Raider of West Virginia and humane operator of prison camps, Imboden has drawn the ire of many because of his supposed tendency to embellish his own record.

Austin, Lynn
Summer 2003

Austin, Lynn *Candle in the Darkness: A Novel*. Bethany House, \$12.99 ISBN 1556614365

Austin frames her work of historical fiction around the story of one Caroline Fletcher, creating a novel that is at once a love story and a piece of social commentary. Fletcher, a resident of Richmond, is horrified at slavery but remains torn between supporting abolitionism and remaining loyal to the South.

Roberts, William H.
Summer 2003

Roberts, William H. *Civil War Ironclads: The U.S. Navy and Industrial Mobilization*. Johns Hopkins University Press, \$46.95 ISBN 801868300

In this examination of one of the more daring shipbuilding programs in history, Roberts argues that the ingenuity and resources required to make ironclads a viable instrument of war ironically proved to be the shipbuilding industry's undoing. Following the war, as urgency and available capital dwindled, the industry underwent a lengthy period of depression.

Patterson, Gerard A.
Summer 2003

Patterson, Gerard A. *Debris of Battle: The Wounded of Gettysburg*. Stackpole Books, \$18.95 ISBN 811727033

Patterson takes up his narrative where most histories of Gettysburg close by chronicling the plight of the more than 21,000 Union and Confederate troops left wounded and dying on the battlefield after their armies had retreated. It was the substantial contributions of aid from civilians from both near and far that prevented thousands more from perishing.

Bragg, C. L.
Summer 2003

Bragg, C. L. *Distinction in Every Service: Brigadier General Marcellus A. Stovall, C.S.A.*. White Mane Books, \$29.95 ISBN 1572492910

This biography chronicles the hardships and successes, in peace and war, of General Stovall. The text spans his birth on the Georgia frontier, his dismissal from West Point in 1837, and his commission to the rank of Confederate Brigadier General in 1863-64. After suffering a humiliating defeat at Nashville in 1864, Stovall managed to achieve a great degree of prosperity in the post-war south.

Faherty, S.J., William Barnaby
Summer 2003

Faherty, S.J., William Barnaby *Exile in Erin: A Confederate Chaplain's Story: The Life of Father John B. Bannon*. Missouri Historical Society Press, \$19.95 ISBN 1883982472

Here, as in his previous works, Father Faherty examines the role played by the Irish in Civil War St. Louis. This latest text tells the tale of Father John B. Bannon, who served in the Confederate infantry and was a diplomat to Ireland for Jefferson Davis. Following the war, Bannon returned to Ireland and became its greatest preacher of the late 19th century.

Baehr, Ted
Wells, Susan
Summer 2003

Baehr, Ted and Wells, Susan. *Faith in God and Generals: An Anthology of Faith, Hope, and Love in the American Civil War.* Broadman and Holman Publishers, \$24.99 ISBN 805427287

Based on the feature film *Gods and Generals*, with a foreword by its writer and director, Ron Maxwell, this book combines primary sources such as diaries and letters along with scholarly commentary on the famous figures and religious themes developed in the film. Screenshots from the movie along with historical photographs and drawings are included in the text.

Seyfried, Vincent F.
Summer 2003

Seyfried, Vincent F. *Flushing in the Civil War Era, 1837 to 1865.* Queens Community Series, \$30.00 ISBN Call 516-379-3319

This text contains copious documentation of all aspects of the growth and development of this New York community on the eve of the Civil War. Complementing the text are numerous pictures, drawings, and maps.

Burchard, Peter
Summer 2003

Burchard, Peter *Frederick Douglass: For the Great Family of Man.* Atheneum Books for Young Readers, \$18.95 ISBN 689832400

Written by the author of *One Gallant Rush* (the inspiration for the film *Glory*), this biography is a direct, concise narrative designed for young readers. The central theme of the work is the importance of Douglass's advocacy for all of humanity.

Marcus, Martin L.
Summer 2003

Marcus, Martin L. *Freedom Land*. Forge Press, \$24.95 ISBN 765304821

In this work of historical fiction, Marcus tells the tale of young Billy Powell, half-British, half-Creek who is forced to flee to Freedom Land after being falsely accused of murder. Freedom Land, a refuge of sorts for escaped slaves, also the home of the Seminole, is the setting for Powell's transformation into the legendary Chief Osceola and his subsequent struggle against U.S. forces in the Seminole Wars.

Maier, Larry B.
Summer 2003

Maier, Larry B. *Gateway to Gettysburg: The Second Battle of Winchester*. Burd Street Press, \$34.95 ISBN 1572492872

As the newly appointed commander of the Second Corps of the Army of Northern Virginia, General Ewell faces his first test by a daring Union division commander at Winchester. Though Ewell eventually succeeds in smashing the outnumbered Federals, precious marching time is lost en route to Pennsylvania.

Robertson Jr., James I.
Summer 2003

Robertson Jr., James I. *Gods and Generals: The Paintings of Mort Kunstler*. The Greenwich Workshop Press, \$27.50 ISBN 867130849

Created as a companion to the motion picture this book includes over 65 of Mort Kunstler's famous paintings. Robertson's narrative serves as a background to the characters and events of the film. *Gods and Generals* director, Ron Maxwell, provides the foreword.

Robertson, William P.
Summer 2003

Robertson, William P. *Hayfoot, Strawfoot: The Bucktail Recruits*. White Mane Kids, \$7.95 ISBN 1572492503

This book for young readers combines fact and fiction while it provides an account of the birth of a famous Union regiment and the coming of age of two young recruits. The two recruits undergo a series of adventures and dangers before ever seeing battle, something that would serve them well before facing first combat in Virginia.

Jones, Terry L.
Summer 2003

Jones, Terry L. *Historical Dictionary of the Civil War: Volume 1: A-L, Volume 2: M-Z*. Scarecrow Press, \$249.50 ISBN 810841126

The author combines an extensively cross-referenced dictionary and bibliography with a detailed timeline and lengthy narrative history of the war. The final product is a reference tool designed for readers at all levels of expertise.

Maier, Larry B.
Summer 2003

Maier, Larry B. *Leather and Steel: The 12th Pennsylvania Cavalry in the Civil War*. Burd Street Press, \$40.00 ISBN 1572492732

This cavalry unit fought the Army of Northern Virginia and shielded the Shenandoah Valley from Confederate raiders in the latter stages of the war. Maier's book describes the unit's involvement in both major campaigns and guerilla warfare.

White Jr., Ronald C.
Summer 2003

White Jr., Ronald C. *Lincoln's Greatest Speech: The Second Inaugural*. Simon & Schuster, \$14.00 ISBN 743212991

In this study, White puts Lincoln's Second Inaugural (spoken little more than a month before his assassination) into context. White contends that its conciliatory and merciful message represents his last will and testament to America and should be seen as more as of a sermon than a state paper.

Haislip, Phyllis Hall
Summer 2003

Haislip, Phyllis Hall *Lottie's Courage: A Contraband Slave's Story*. White Mane Kids, \$7.95 ISBN 1572493119

Based on actual memoirs of runaway slaves who found refuge at Fortress Monroe, this is the story of a 10 year-old slave girl's flight to freedom. Separated from her mother at auction, Lottie finds support from an older woman with whom she would soon flee. Struggling to overcome her fears and in desperate search of her mother, Lottie's story offers a framework through which children can explore the issues of the Civil War, slavery, and human rights.

Holt, Sharon Ann
Summer 2003

Holt, Sharon Ann *Making Freedom Pay: North Carolina Freedpeople Working for Themselves: 1865-1900*. The University of Georgia Press, \$19.95 ISBN 820324426

Assembled from public records and other primary sources, this book is a microeconomic history of Granville County, North Carolina. The author attempts to show how freed slaves were able to, often through collective efforts, secure a livelihood in this ravaged central North Carolina region.

Brager, Bruce L.

Summer 2003

Brager, Bruce L. *Petersburg*. Chelsea House Publishers, \$22.95 ISBN 791071006

The latest in the *Sieges That Changed the World Series*, this fully illustrated text tailored to younger readers provides an account of the siege that marked the beginning of the end for the Confederacy.

Gottfried, Bradley M.

Summer 2003

Gottfried, Bradley M. *Roads to Gettysburg: Lee's Invasion of the North, 1863*. White Mane Press, \$29.95 ISBN 1572492848

Gottfried appries the reader of the complicated movements of both armies on the road to Gettysburg after the Battle of Chancellorsville. Primary sources are woven into the day-to-day accounts.

Fraser Jr., Walter J.

Summer 2003

Fraser Jr., Walter J. *Savannah in the Old South*. University of Georgia Press, \$39.95 ISBN 820324361

Fraser presents the history of this Southern city and highlights its cosmopolitan attitude and diverse social makeup. The scholarly narrative follows the city from its tidewater founding in 1733 up through the uncertainties faced by its Civil War survivors.

Bierce, Ambrose

Summer 2003

Bierce, Ambrose *Shadows of Blue & Gray: The Civil War Writings of Ambrose Bierce*. Forge Press, \$13.95 ISBN 765302454

Combining the supernatural with morbid reality and humor with factual reporting, Bierce's writings on the War are considered some of the finest of all of American literature. For the first time all of his Civil War writings are collected in one volume, including some 27 stories and six excerpts from his memoirs.

**Holden, Walter
William E. Ross
Elizabeth Slomba
Summer 2003**

Holden, Walter, William E. Ross, and Elizabeth Slomba. *Stand Firm and Fire Low: The Civil War Writings of Colonel Edward E. Cross*. University of New Hampshire Press, \$24.95 ISBN 1584652802

Hailed by General Winfield Scott Hancock as one of the best regiments in the world, the Fifth New Hampshire Volunteers fought bravely in the major Eastern battles through Gettysburg. The Fighting Fifth's enigmatic commander, Colonel Cross, left a multitude of writings that bring to life the unit's history. These previously unpublished correspondences, along with his own battlefield diagrams and poetry, shed light on how the controversial Cross molded this unit into one of the finest.

**Gibboney, Douglas Lee
Summer 2003**

Gibboney, Douglas Lee *Stonewall Jackson at Gettysburg*. Burd Street Press, \$12.95 ISBN 1572493178

Subjunctive history is employed in this work of fiction that asks and answers the question of what might have transpired had Stonewall Jackson not been killed at Chancellorsville.

Harrold, Stanley

Summer 2003

Harrold, Stanley *Subversives: Antislavery Community in Washington, D.C., 1828-1865*. Louisiana State University Press, \$69.95 ISBN 807128058

While multitudes of works have been written on the political debates over slavery inside the capital, very few have examined the secretive, grassroots effort to abolish the practice by citizens from within the district. This study uncovers the story of those in the antebellum era who surreptitiously labored to undermine the institution of slavery despite their course of action being fraught with danger and long odds.

Beaudot, William J. K.

Summer 2003

Beaudot, William J. K. *The 24th Wisconsin Infantry in the Civil War: The Biography of a Regiment*. Stackpole Books, \$32.95 ISBN 811708942

This work follows the personal stories of Wisconsinite soldiers through hundreds of vignettes. Beaudot paints a picture of life as a Union soldier in this unit that fought in the Western theater.

Fowler, Robert H.

Summer 2003

Fowler, Robert H. *The Battle of Milroy Station: A Novel of the Nature of True Courage*. Forge Press, \$25.95 ISBN 076530659X

Fowler (founder of *Civil War Times Illustrated* and author of, among other things, the revered *Jim Mundy*) examines the permanent effects of war on the individual in this, his last novel. In a reflective epistle form, Fowler tells the story of Southern Senator Andrew Jackson Mundy and how an incident at the little-known battle of Milroy Station transformed his life. Repercussions from this event prevented him from accepting the vice-presidential nomination for the Republican Party in 1896.

Hatch, Thom
Summer 2003

Hatch, Thom *The Blue, the Gray, and the Red: Indian Campaigns of the Civil War*. Stackpole Books, \$29.95 ISBN 081170016X

Inexperienced Union and Confederate soldiers and civilians alike were forced to contend with Native Americans during the Civil War. In fact, Hatch argues, more died taming the West during this four-year period than in any other. The author seeks to dispel the notion that the Indians and settlers fought less during this period because of the struggles in the East. He also treats the skirmishes and battles of these years as resulting in the better-known conflicts that erupted in the West over the latter third of the 19th century.

Johnston, T.J.
Summer 2003

Johnston, T.J. *The Boys from Kalamazoo*. Burd Street Press, \$29.95 ISBN 1572492694

Johnston presents a fictional account of three young men from Michigan who find themselves in a unit of sharpshooters fighting on the frontiers in Kentucky, Missouri, and the plains. The story leads to a dramatic conclusion at the Battle of Shiloh.

Wood, Larry
Summer 2003

Wood, Larry *The Civil War Story of Bloody Bill Anderson*. Eakin Publications, \$22.95 ISBN 1571686401

Wood relates the story of Bill Anderson, a Confederate partisan in southern Missouri, whose impact was similar to that of William Quantrill. Anderson was a notable member of a band of guerillas who wreaked havoc behind the lines in

Missouri, far beyond the point when Confederate regulars had been driven out.

Cannan, John
Summer 2003

Cannan, John *The Crater: Burnside's Assault on the Confederate Trenches: June 30, 1864.* Da Capo Press, \$17.50 ISBN 306811529

A unique and memorable episode in the Petersburg siege, the Crater is a classic example of solid planning poorly executed. The Union lost an entire division while the Confederates had little trouble restoring the breach caused by the explosion. Cannan's study of this episode is part of the *Battleground America Series* that combines narrative, modern-day photographs, and detailed maps.

Dedmond, Glenn
Summer 2003

Dedmond, Glenn *The Flags of Civil War North Carolina.* Pelican Press, \$20.95 ISBN 1565549929

This volume features 150 color illustrations of the various flags of unit, battle, and state used by Confederate North Carolinians during the war. In addition to being a chronological compendium of flags, this book serves as a basic battle history and timeline of the various North Carolina units.

Swingle, Morley
Summer 2003

Swingle, Morley *The Gold of Cape Girardeau: A Novel.* Southeast Missouri State University Press, \$19.95 ISBN 972430407

This historical novel is shaped around a modern-day courtroom battle over a long-lost buried treasure. The origins and secrets of the treasure emerge through the tumultuous adventures of two young lovers before and during the Civil War.

**Creese, Rick
Spirer, Peter
Summer 2003**

Creese, Rick and Spirer, Peter. *The Man Who Lost the Civil War: A Documentary Film.* University of New Mexico Press, \$29.95 VHS ISBN 826330061

In this documentary film, Academy Award-nominated director Peter Spirer explores Confederate General Henry Hopkins Sibley's disastrous western campaign. Filmed on location in New Mexico, distinguished actor Morgan Sheppard (who played General Trimble in *Gettysburg*) narrates while John Taylor, Jerry Thompson, Don Frazier, and Don Alberts — all recognized authorities on the Civil War in the Southwest — provide expert commentary.

**Tenney, W. J.
Summer 2003**

Tenney, W. J. *The Military and Naval History of the Rebellion in the United States: 1866 Edition.* Stackpole Books, \$39.95 ISBN 811700283

This is the first of the great general histories to be written on the Civil War. Tenney's accounts of the events were verified by actual participants, and cover not only the battles and campaigns on land and sea, but also the related political proceedings and key technological breakthroughs in military and naval science.

**Schultz, Duane
Summer 2003**

Schultz, Duane *The Most Glorious Fourth: Vicksburg and Gettysburg, July 4th, 1863.* W.W. Norton, \$15.95 ISBN 393323811

Intertwining the Vicksburg and Gettysburg campaigns from the days and weeks leading up to the Fourth of July in 1863, Schultz concentrates on the personal element of this decisive period of the war by offering intimate accounts

of those people who played prominent roles in these conflicts.

Neal Jr., Charles M.
Summer 2003

Neal Jr., Charles M. *Valor Across the Lone Star: The Congressional Medal of Honor in Frontier Texas.* The Texas State Historical Association, \$39.95 ISBN 876111843

This volume highlights the brave exploits of the finest of those who served on the Texas frontier. All the subjects are winners of the Congressional Medal of Honor who played key roles from the Civil War through the eventual taming of the West.

DeBlack, Thomas A.
Summer 2003

DeBlack, Thomas A. *With Fire and Sword: Arkansas, 1861-1874.* University of Arkansas Press, \$34.95 ISBN 1557287392

This work, the fourth volume in the *Histories of Arkansas Series*, describes the major figures and events of Civil War and Reconstruction Arkansas and their effects on the impoverishment of a once prosperous state. DeBlack paints a picture of the state that incorporates the experiences of the ordinary Arkansas resident as well as the extraordinary politician or general.