Editorial

RECOVERED WRECKAGE, ACTIVE AMPUTEES, & GENERAL JUDGMENT

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The mission of the United States Civil War Center is to examine the war in innovative ways; we continue to carry on that tradition with this issue of the Civil War Book Review. Even more so than usual, this issue's books discuss the Civil War from a wide variety of disciplines.

Secrets of a Civil War Submarine (Carolrhoda Books, ISBN 1575058308, $18.95, hardcover) is veiled as a children's book, but will interest readers of all ages. In it, Sally M. Walker describes the various areas of scholarship used to recover the wreckage and story of the long lost H.L. Hunley. Leading us into the realm of literary criticism, reviewer C. Stuart Chapman explores James Panabaker's critique of Foote as a modern Southern writer in Shelby Foote and the Art of History (University of Tennessee Press, ISBN 1572333189, $32.00, hardcover). In our Perspectives from Afield and Afar column, William Etter introduces us to the unique subject matter of The Civil War Letters of Colonel Charles F. Johnson, Invalid Corps (University of Massachusetts Press, ISBN 155849460X, $26.95, softcover), which describe, among other things, the role of active disabled Union soldiers.

Equally absorbing is our interview with Major Charles R. Bowery, Jr., recently deployed to Iraq as a field-grade-officer, and author of Lee & Grant: Profiles in Leadership from the Battlefields of Virginia (AMACOM, ISBN 0814408192, $24.00, hardcover). For a profile in mediocre leadership, we turn to David Gerleman's review of Commander of All Lincoln's Armies: A Life of General Henry W. Halleck by John F. Marszalek (Harvard University Press, ISBN 0674014936, $29.95, hardcover).

To examine how integral slavery was in the development of America, Ervin L. Jordan delves into Slavery and the Making of America (Oxford University Press, ISBN 019517903X, $35.00, hardcover) by James Oliver Horton and Lois E. Horton. In Rediscovering Civil War Classics, David Madden traces the
development of Henry Adams's novels *Democracy* and *Esther* into two, modern stage performance pieces. In her new column, Civil War Treasures, Leah Wood Jewett describes an archived letter, dated April 18, 1865, in which the son of a plantation owner writes home about the plans of his regiment without the knowledge that Robert E. Lee's army had already surrendered.


This issue contains over 40 annotations of new and reprinted titles; here are a few worthy of special mention:

- **Abraham Lincoln, President-Elect** by Larry D. Mansch
- **His Brother's Blood** edited by William F. Moore and Jane Ann Moore
- **Memoranda During the War** by Walt Whitman
- **Myths of the Plantation Society** by Nathalie Dessens
- **Showing the Flag** edited by Lawrence J. Bopp and Stephen R Bockmiller
- **The Pearl** by Josephine E. Pacheco

As always, I am very thankful for our reviewers, for their contributions of time and energy to the *Civil War Book Review*. Their work not only benefits the CWBR; their careful analysis and dedication to scholarship ensures that the researching, writing, and publication of excellent books on the Civil War on a variety of topics, for diverse audiences, will continue for a long time to come.