

Civil War Book Review

Fall 2006

Article 27

Annotations

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Recommended Citation

CWBR_Editor (2006) "Annotations," *Civil War Book Review*. Vol. 8 : Iss. 3 .
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.lsu.edu/cwbr/vol8/iss3/27>

ANNOTATIONS

Walsh, George

Fall 2006

Walsh, George *"Whip the Rebellion:" Ulysses S. Grant's Rise to Command.* Tor/Forge, \$15.95 ISBN 765305275

Ulysses S. Grant amounted to little more than a drunkard who supported him and his family by working odd jobs in the aftermath of the Mexican War. Yet by 1865, he was one of the most celebrated men in the United States and just four years away from capturing the presidency. As author George Walsh reveals, the Civil War afforded Grant the opportunity to do what he did best: win the trust of his subordinates and prosecute war without mercy.

Kilcup, Karen L., ed.

Fall 2006

Kilcup, Karen L., ed. *A Cherokee Woman's America: Memories of Narcissa Owen, 1831-1907.* University Press of Florida, \$59.95 ISBN 813028663

Perhaps best known as the mother of Robert Owen, the first United States senator from Oklahoma, Narcissa Owen led a no less illustrious life during a time when she and her fellow Cherokee had few chances for success. Owen's memoirs recount the story of a supremely talented painter, teacher, and philanthropist who did much to advance the cause of women as well as Native Americans.

Roe, David D., ed.

Fall 2006

Roe, David D., ed. *A Civil War Soldier's Diary: Valentine C. Randolph, 39th Illinois Regiment.* Northern Illinois University Press, \$35.00 ISBN 875803431

Few soldiers record their everyday activities during war and even fewer do so for a sustained period of time. Valentine C. Randolph did both while serving with the 39th Illinois Regiment during the Civil War. Articulate and candid, Randolph's diary tells of the excitement of battle, the monotony of daily life, and the racial intolerance displayed by his fellow Union soldiers.

Kazin, Michael
Fall 2006

Kazin, Michael *A Godly Hero: The Life of William Jennings Bryan*. Alfred A. Knopf, \$30.00 ISBN 375411356

One part preacher, one part politico, Williams Jennings Bryan gave hope to millions of Americans distraught over what they perceived to be the excesses of the Gilded Age. While Bryan is notorious for having been the only nominee to lose three presidential elections, his defense of the average citizen in the face of big business and the gold standard earned him the moniker The Great Commoner. Michl Kazin recounts the life of this highly-influential man who was, in his opinion, most responsible for infusing liberal ideals into the Democratic Party.

Geier, Clarence R.
Potter, Stephen R., eds.
Fall 2006

Geier, Clarence R. and Potter, Stephen R., eds. *Archaeological Perspectives on the American Civil War*. University Press of Florida, \$27.95 ISBN 813026512

The authors û using a variety of examples including archological studies of Antietam and Andersonville ûdemonstrate the ways in which historical archology can provide further insights into battlefield tactics, social and military history, the effects of the war on the home front, and contemporary battlefield preservation techniques. Detailed maps, diagrams, and charts illustrate the text in this new paperback edition.

Raus, Edmund J., Jr.

Fall 2006

Raus, Edmund J., Jr. *Banners South: A Northern Community War*. Kent State University Press, \$39.00 ISBN 873388429

Little more than a remote outpost in central New York, the rural town of Courtland was home to dozens of men who fought for the 23rd New York Volunteers during the Civil War. Their story, however, goes beyond their battlefield exploits at Antietam and Fredericksburg; the experiences of the 23rd can only be understood fully, suggests author Edmund J. Raus, Jr., when placed in a broader historical context that includes topics such as civilians' attitudes about race and the difficulties that faced soldiers returning home.

Williams, Greg H.

Fall 2006

Williams, Greg H. *Civil War Suits in the U.S. Court of Claims: Cases Involving Compensation to Northerners and Southerners for Wartime Losses*. McFarland Press, \$49.95 ISBN 786424303

Predictably, as the most destructive conflict to visit United States' soil, the Civil War spawned numerous claims against the federal government. From disputes relating to contracts and compensation to property loss and pension payments, these cases were all heard in the United States Court of Claims. Author Greg H. Williams arranges selected disputes by claimant surname and offers a brief summation of the legal ramifications of four years of fighting.

Lowry, Thomas P.

Fall 2006

Lowry, Thomas P. *Confederate Heroines: Southern Women Convicted by Union Military Justice*. Louisiana State University Press, \$29.95 ISBN 807129909

Women played an important role in the Civil War, as many attended to wounded soldiers and organized charity events to aid in the war effort. Yet a few females who sided with the South acted less like Clara Barton than Bonnie Parker. Author Thomas P. Lowry uncovers the story of 120 Confederate women convicted by the United States government of everything from spying to armed robbery.

Stowe, Harriet Beecher

Fall 2006

Stowe, Harriet Beecher *Dred: A Tale of the Great Dismal Swamp*. University of North Carolina Press, \$21.95 ISBN 807856851

When famed abolitionist and author Harriet Beecher Stowe first introduced the horrors of slavery to the American public, she did so through the perspective of Uncle Tom, a compliant African-American slave. Her second anti-slavery book, *Dred*, was largely written in an effort to combat critics who condemned Stowe's characterization of Tom and by association, all slaves as a passive servant to his white master. *Dred* thus centers on contemporary attitudes about race, the institution of slavery, and an armed slave rebellion.

Marty, Karl

Drickamer, Lee C.

Fall 2006

Marty, Karl and Drickamer, Lee C. *Drummer Boy: The Civil War Diary of Edwin Hale Lincoln*. Ivy House Publishing, \$12.95 ISBN 1571974359

Although just fourteen years of age upon enlisting with the 5th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, Edwin Hale Lincoln experienced the Civil War as did many of his elder contemporaries. His diary entries tell of the thrill of receiving mail, the horrors of combat, and the monotony of daily life. Lincoln later became a celebrated photographer as well as National Vice Commander in the Grand Army of the Republic before dying at the age of 91.

Landau, Elaine

Fall 2006

Landau, Elaine *Fleeing To Freedom on the Underground Railroad: The Courageous Slaves, Agents, and Conductors*. Twenty-First Century Books, \$26.60 ISBN 822534908

Slaves living in the antebellum South had but two options: endure or escape. While most chose the former, many opted to risk their lives and make the journey north along the Underground Railroad. Author Elaine Landau makes use of diaries, letters, and other contemporary sources to describe the perilous trek that thousands of African-Americans made to secure their freedom.

**Phillips, Ulrich B.
Glunt, James D., eds.**

Fall 2006

Phillips, Ulrich B. and Glunt, James D., eds. *Florida Plantation Records from the Papers of George Noble James*. University Press of Florida, \$55.00 ISBN 813029767

Reissued with a new introduction by historian John David Smith, *Florida Plantation Records* recounts the inner workings of George Noble Jones's large estates in northern Florida. Smith not only elaborates on the historical value of the text—which includes slave names, work duties, and production records—but he also critiques the work the two scholars who originally edited the records in 1927.

Turtledove, Harry

Fall 2006

Turtledove, Harry *Fort Pillow: A Novel of the Civil War*. St. Martin's Press, \$24.95 ISBN 312355203

The latest work by the prolific novelist Harry Turtledove centers on one the most controversial engagements to occur during the Civil War, the 1864 battle at

Fort Pillow. While Turtledove narrates this fictional account from multiple perspectives, the alleged massacre of black Unionists who helped defend the garrison from Confederate infantrymen remains the focal point.

Cunningham, Frank

Fall 2006

Cunningham, Frank *General Stand Watie's Confederate Indians*. University of Oklahoma Press, \$19.95 ISBN 806130350

As the only Indian to attain the rank of general in the Confederate Army, Stand Watie and his fellow Cherokee played an important role in frustrating Union plans west of the Mississippi River. Watie quickly earned the respect of Southern officials with his unflagging loyalty and daring raids. So convinced was Watie of the Southern cause that he did not lay down his arms until June 1865, two months after General Robert E. Lee surrendered at Appomattox.

Sauers, Richard A.

Fall 2006

Sauers, Richard A. *Gettysburg: The Meade-Sickles Controversy*. Potomac Books, Inc., \$24.95 ISBN 1574887505

Originally published in 2003 and now out in paperback, this book examines the dispute over Gen. Daniel Sickles' brash and controversial movements at the battle of Gettysburg. Please see our Fall 2003 issue for a full review.

Soodalter, Ron

Fall 2006

Soodalter, Ron *Hanging Captain Gordon: The Life and Trial of an American Slave Trader*. Atria Books, \$26.00 ISBN 743267273

While Captain Nathaniel Gordon's primary source of income—the capturing and selling of African slaves—was an offense punishable by hanging, the United

States government had never sentenced anyone to death for slave trading. This fact changed in late February 1862, when Gordon was hanged after being found with 897 slaves near the mouth of the Congo River two years previous. As author Ron Soodalter reveals, however, Gordon's story is as much about the only man executed for this crime, as it is the story of the changing political climate of the early 1860s.

Poremba, David Lee

Fall 2006

Poremba, David Lee *If I Am Found Dead: Michigan Voices from the Civil War*. Ann Arbor Media Group, \$26.95 ISBN 1587262835

Although well removed from the flashpoint of war, many people residing in Michigan felt it their duty to honor President Abraham Lincoln's call to arms in April 1865. Historian David Lee Poremba introduces four Michiganders who fought for the Union Army but emerged from the war bound for very different fates.

Bailey, Anne J.

Fall 2006

Bailey, Anne J. *Invisible Southerners: Ethnicity in the Civil War*. University of Georgia Press, \$24.95 ISBN 820327573

The Civil War was not simply the concern of white America. Blacks, Indians, and German immigrants also entertained opinions about the conflict. But as Anne J. Bailey argues, those opinions were often shaped by forces of which white Americans were largely unfamiliar. While most sided with the North, these minorities did so in the face of tribal conflict, religious divisions, and the racial prejudices of their fellow Unionists.

Wittenberg, Eric J.

Fall 2006

Wittenberg, Eric J. *Little Phil: A Reassessment of the Civil War Leadership of Gen. Phillip H. Sheridan.* Potomac Books, Inc., \$17.95 ISBN 1574885480

History is replete with misrepresentations and outright fallacies. According to Eric J. Wittenburg, one of the most enduring falsehoods to emerge from the Civil War relates to the record of Union general Philip H. Sheridan. Wittenburg claims that the diminutive Sheridan rarely displayed tactical ability, occasionally engaged in acts of insubordination, and frequently manipulated facts in an effort to conceal his dubious military service.

Escott, Paul D.

Fall 2006

Escott, Paul D. *Military Necessity: Civil-Military Relations in the Confederacy.* Praeger Security International, \$49.95 ISBN 275983137

Nowhere were the privations of the Civil War felt more acutely than the American South. With the Union edging closer to victory, the policies crafted by Confederate officials were shaped less by principle than military necessity. Southern society underwent a significant transformation, as those chosen to prosecute the war also became the primary arbiters of law and order.

Leehan, Brian

Fall 2006

Leehan, Brian *Pale Horses at Plum Run: The First Minnesota at Gettysburg.* Minnesota Historical Society Press, \$17.95 ISBN 873515110

The disastrous infantry assault led by Confederate general George Pickett remains among the most scrutinized military maneuvers to occur during the battle of Gettysburg. Discussed less often are the soldiers who repelled Pickett's Charge and helped to secure Union victory. Brian Leehan uncovers the story of a group of Minnesota soldiers who played a crucial role in one of the most pivotal moments of the Civil War.

Lemann, Nicholas

Fall 2006

Lemann, Nicholas *Redemption: The Last Battle of the Civil War*. Farrar, Straus, & Giroux, \$24.00 ISBN 374248559

Having lost the war, some white Southerners began the Reconstruction era determined to win the battle at home. Believing it their duty to marginalize the civil rights bestowed to blacks in the form of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth amendments, certain groups in Mississippi employed violence and intimidation to suppress the African-American vote. Mississippians' efforts to redeem their state, says Nicholas Lemann, hastened the death of Reconstruction and hampered the civil rights movement for years to come.

Forehand, Thomas, Jr., ed.

Fall 2006

Forehand, Thomas, Jr., ed. *Robert E. Lee's Lighter Side: The Marble Man's Sense of Humor*. Pelican Publishing, \$12.95 ISBN 1589803558

When pressed to supply more modern arms and equipment to a general in Kentucky, Gen. Robert E. Lee quickly obliged, offering to send wooden pikes to his needy brother in arms. Thomas Forehand, Jr. has assembled this and other equally humorous accounts that reveal the Marble Man also possessed a much lighter side.

Burin, Eric

Fall 2006

Burin, Eric *Slavery and the Peculiar Solution: A History of the American Colonization Society*. University Press of Florida, \$59.95 ISBN 813028418

While it may have taken the forceful presence of Marcus Garvey to gain widespread notoriety, the Back to Africa movement traces its roots as far back as the early decades of the eighteenth century. Founded in 1816, the American Colonization Society was one of the first organizations to promote the

manumission of slaves on the condition that they immigrate to the West African nation of Liberia. Historian Eric Burin reveals that the colonization movement proved beneficial to some participants but was often plagued by legal complications and wrought with financial problems.

Rubin, Hyman III
Fall 2006

Rubin, Hyman III *South Carolina Scalawags*. University of South Carolina Press, \$29.95 ISBN 9781570036255

Few white South Carolinians supported the policies of Reconstruction. Even fewer chose to side with the northern immigrants and former slaves who assumed control of the state government in the years immediately after the war. Labeled scalawags by their detractors, these men encountered much opposition, as they assisted in the creation of one of the most effective governments to rule South Carolina.

Postma, Johannes
Fall 2006

Postma, Johannes *The Atlantic Slave Trade*. University Press of Florida, \$24.95 ISBN 813029066

At a time when little else but the galleons of the Spanish navy linked East and West, slaves traders began capturing and forcibly transporting the first Africans to the New World. The institution of slavery shaped not only the future relationship of East and West but also the future of numerous people touched by the Atlantic slave trade. Historian Johannes Postma examines this topic using primary documents written by blacks and whites, sellers and buyers, slaveholders and abolitionists.

McWhiney, Grady
Fall 2006

McWhiney, Grady *The Civil War: A Concise Account by a Noted Southern Historian*. Texas A&M; University Press, \$12.95 ISBN 189311449X

Beginning with the observation, . . . there were no united states in 1787, Grady McWhiney offers a condensed account of the Civil War that goes far beyond that of a simple military history. He focuses on the most basic political, social, and economic factors that led to and determined the outcome of the most costly war to occur on American soil. All the while, McWhiney highlights the debates surrounding slavery as well as the regional differences that existed even before the time when there were no United States.

**Holzer, Harold
Medford, Edna G.
Williams, Frank J.**
Fall 2006

Holzer, Harold, Medford, Edna G., and Williams, Frank J. *The Emancipation Proclamation: Three Views*. Louisiana State University Press, \$29.95 ISBN 080713144X

Put into effect on January 1, 1863, Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation freed all slaves residing in Confederate territories not yet under Union control. Yet as Harold Holzer, Edna G. Medford, and Frank J. Williams argue, this momentous decree shaped political debate and influenced public opinion at the same time it liberated millions of African Americans.

Holzer, Harold, ed.
Fall 2006

Holzer, Harold, ed. *The Lincoln Mailbag: America Writes to the President, 1861-1865*. Southern Illinois University Press, \$22.95 ISBN 080932685X

In October 1861, B.J.F. Hanna composed a brief but thorough letter to President Abraham Lincoln. Without mention of the war that currently engulfed his country, Hanna beseeched the president for an appointment to one of the nine federal posts enumerated within the note. While no less sincere, most of the thousands of people who wrote Lincoln focused not on personal gain but on the

tragedies visited them by war, the joy felt upon learning of their emancipation, and the hope that both he and the country could endure the war.

Rolle, Andrew

Fall 2006

Rolle, Andrew *The Lost Cause: The Confederate Exodus to Mexico*. University of Oklahoma Press, \$19.95 ISBN 806119616

Disillusioned by the fall of the South, a handful of Confederates abandoned their country for a new life abroad. Many of these disaffected Southerners settled in Mexico, while others ventured as far as Venezuela, Britain, and even Egypt. Yet peace and profit proved elusive for those who sought salvation in Mexico. There, this group of generals, judges, merchants, and farmers encountered political turmoil, debilitating disease, and roving bandits.

Cotham, Edward T., Jr., ed.

Fall 2006

Cotham, Edward T., Jr., ed. *The Southern Journey of a Civil War Marine: The Illustrated Note-Book of Henry O. Gusley*. University of Texas Press, \$24.95 ISBN 292712839

After his capture during the Battle of Sabine Pass in September 1863, U.S. Marine Henry O. Gusley no doubt believed he would toil in obscurity while held in a Confederate prisoner of war camp. He did spend the next nineteen months at various detention centers around Texas, but, thanks to the editors of the *Galveston Tri-Weekly News* who secured and published his war-time diary, Gusley became a minor celebrity among his Southern foes.

Joyner, Elizabeth Hoxie

Fall 2006

Joyner, Elizabeth Hoxie *The USS Cairo: History and Artifacts of a Civil War Gunboat*. McFarland Press, \$29.95 ISBN 786422572

In an effort to clog the Confederacy's supply and communication lines, Union commanders dispatched numerous gunboats to patrol the rivers of the Deep South. The ironclad *USS Cairo* was the Capital ship of the City class and the first to fall victim to a naval mine while navigating the shallow waters of the Yazoo River on December 12, 1862. Author Elizabeth Hoxie Joyner presents a study of the many relics discovered after a team of searchers salvaged the *Cairo* more than a century after its sinking.

Townsend, Stephen A.

Fall 2006

Townsend, Stephen A. *The Yankee Invasion of Texas*. Texas A&M; University Press, \$25.00 ISBN 1585444871

Although well removed from the major theaters of battle, Texas played a crucial role in the supplying of Confederate troops and the maintenance of economic links to the outside world during the Civil War. Accordingly, on October 26, 1863, Union forces launched the Rio Grande Expedition in hopes of striking a blow to both the Lone Star State and its rebel allies. Historian Stephen A. Townsend analyzes this foray, its military maneuvering, its affects on the local populace, and its ultimate failure to capture more than the port of Brownsville.

Hanson, Kathleen S.

Fall 2006

Hanson, Kathleen S. *Turn Backward, O Time: The Civil War Diary of Amanda Shelton*. Edinborough Press, \$14.95 ISBN 1889020184

The diary has become a staple for hungry students of the Civil War. Scholars employ them as a basis for research, and readers relish the opportunity to learn of the intimate details of an individual unlucky enough to find themselves caught up in battle. Amanda Shelton's diary recounts her experiences during the war from a unique perspective. As a member of a nursing unit labeled the Special Diet Kitchens, she helped to establish the practice of individualized

patient careùa concept in nursing that persists even today.

Welsh, Jack D.

Fall 2006

Welsh, Jack D. *Two Confederate Hospitals and their Patients: Atlanta to Opelika.* Mercer University Press, \$35.00 ISBN 9780865549

Using previously unavailable records, Welsh tells the story of two Confederate hospitals in operation during the Civil War. These sanatoriums primarily treated patients belonging to the Army of Tennessee, many of whom suffered from a shortage of beds, too few surgeons, and the forced relocation of the hospital itself. A listing of more than 18,000 patientsùaccessible through the accompanying CD-ROMùreveals additional information about the diseases, diagnoses, and general hardships that faced the infirm.

Cisco, Walter B.

Fall 2006

Cisco, Walter B. *Wade Hampton: Confederate Warrior, Conservative Statesman.* Potomac Books, Inc., \$21.95 ISBN 1574886274

Of remarkable wealth and comfortable surroundings, Wade Hampton was not obliged to leave his native South Carolina for the battlefields of the Civil War. Yet he did so, assuming command of the Confederate cavalry following the death of J.E.B. Stuart. After the war, Hampton returned home and won the governorship as well as the moniker The Savior of South Carolina for his efforts to end Reconstruction. He then served eleven years in the United States Senate before dying in 1902.

Coviello, Peter, ed.

Fall 2006

Coviello, Peter, ed. *Walt Whitman's Memoranda During the War.* Oxford University Press, \$12.95 ISBN 195167937

Learning of the wounding of his brother, Walt Whitman abandoned his Brooklyn tenement for the blood-soaked battlefields of the Civil War. There, he transformed the agony, heroism, and confusion of battle into vivid journal entries and general correspondence. Editor Peter Coviello includes Whitman's celebrated speech The Death of Abraham Lincoln as well as poems that shed additional light onto one of America's darkest hours.