Annotations

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ANOTATIONS

Simms, William Gilmore
Spring 2006


In February 1865, renowned journalist and poet William Gilmore Simms witnessed and recorded the sacking of Columbia, South Carolina by Union troops under the command of Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman. In the months that followed, Simms published these eyewitness accounts in the first ten issues of the Columbia Phoenix. While he later muted his initial outrage, Simms supplied such a vivid account of this event that editor David Aiken presents it in its entirety, replete with a collection of illustrations and photographs.

Hain, Pamela Chase
Spring 2006


The descendant of a United States Congressman, a Sorbonne-trained physician, and a wealthy plantation owner, Thomas L. Wragg believed he had much to defend upon enlisting in the Confederate army in May 1861. Wragg served as both a capable private and a skilled gunner aboard the first ironclad to see action, the CSS Atlanta, all the while writing letters home that described everything from military maneuverings to the isolation he experienced after being captured and imprisoned by Union forces in June 1863.

Williams, Philip Lee
Spring 2006
Williams, Philip Lee *A Distant Flame.* A Thomas Dunne Book, $14.95 ISBN 312348479

The passage of half a century did little to remove the stain of war from the mind of Georgia native Charlie Merrill. A sharpshooter in the Confederate army, Merrill recounts battling Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman and his Union forces as they laid waste to much of the Peach state during the spring and summer of 1864. The 50th anniversary of the battle of Atlanta allows this fictional character the opportunity to reflect not only on the struggles he faced on the battlefield but also the uncertainties he felt toward issues such as slavery, secession, and the war itself.

Sutherland, Daniel E., editor

Spring 2006


In the spirit of the notorious Border Ruffians of the mid-to-late 1850s, Samuel S. Hildebrand haunted the towns of the Missouri River Valley throughout much of the Civil War. Although he could boast little formal education, Hildebrand commanded a daring group of supporters who employed guerilla-like tactics in an effort to frustrate Union forces in the region. Hildebrand was indiscriminate in his killing; soldiers and civilians, whites and blacks, men and women, all perished at his hands. Journalist and historian Kirby Ross edits this autobiography, which was originally published in 1870.

Matthews, Gary Robert

Spring 2006


Born May 28, 1837 in Richland, Kentucky, Basil Wilson Duke grew up among the wealth and tradition of the Bluegrass gentry. Duke felt obligated to
side with the South upon the outbreak of the Civil War, and he soon became a trusted adviser to Gen. John Hunt Morgan, his brother-in-law and leader of a famed band of Confederate raiders. Following a year-long imprisonment and the death of the general, Duke assumed control of Morgan's men in 1864 only to persuade President Davis of the futility of continuing the war. In subsequent years, Duke wrote *A History of Morgan's Cavalry*, served as a member of the Kentucky House of Representatives, and became a skilled and much sought-after orator for political functions and Civil War reunions.

**Ecelbarger, Gary**

*Spring 2006*


The Civil War altered the attitudes of numerous Americans, none more so than John Alexander Logan. Dubbed Black Jack for his swarthy complexion, Logan began his life in the public arena as a Democratic congressman from Illinois and a fierce defender of the Fugitive Slave Law. The horrors of the Civil War, however, compelled him to reexamine his values and convinced him not only to denounce the institution of slavery but to fight alongside Union infantrymen. Logan's service under both Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman and Gen. Ulysses S. Grant helped galvanize his political career, as he championed the rights of women and African Americans until his untimely death in December 1886.

**Carter, Alden R.**

*Spring 2006*

**Carter, Alden R.** *Bright Starry Banner: A Novel of the Civil War.* SOHO Press, $15.00 ISBN 1569473811

Although it is a work of fiction, *Bright Starry Banner* relies heavily on primary source material to recreate one of the most destructive engagements to take place during the Civil War, the two-day battle of Stones River. Carter constructs fictional conversations but adheres to the historical facts, as he focuses
on the men who actually participated in the battle as well as the military maneuverings that ultimately led both North and South to declare victory.

Cockrell, Thomas D., editor
Ballard, Michael B.
Spring 2006


As a resident of Chickasaw County Mississippi and proprietor of six black slaves, Levi H. Naron was expected to be a friend to the Southern cause. Yet decency, common sense, and a suspicion of fire-eating secessionists, compelled him to offer his services to the Union army upon the outbreak of the Civil War. Thus was Naron's life transformed from that of a land owner in northeastern Mississippi to a Federal scout, spy, and raider. Naron recounts such espionage activities as burning Confederate railcars, supplying faulty intelligence, and chasing down Union deserters, all the while feigning allegiance to his Southern brothers.

Gilmore, Donald L.
Spring 2006


In an effort to discourage Missouri from joining the ranks of the Confederacy, President Abraham Lincoln ordered a strong military presence to the Missouri-Kansas border region in the months prior to the Civil War. Kansan soldiers supported by Union forces used the confiscation of private property, physical coercion, and martial law to frighten Missourians into submission. These repeated incursions left Missourians with little choice but to retaliate. In the years prior to and during the Civil War, they engaged in guerilla-like tactics against their aggressors and, in the process, were transformed from innocents
into cold-blooded killers.

Campbell, Thomas  
Spring 2006

Campbell, Thomas  
Confederate Naval Forces on Western Waters: The Defense of the Mississippi River and its Tributaries.  
McFarland Press, $45.00 ISBN 786422033

The Mississippi River has long carried the lifeblood of the United States. Along its waters has flowed everything from foodstuffs and textiles to new ideas and communication. Their Northern foes notwithstanding, no one understood the strategic importance of the river more than the leaders of the Confederacy. Yet Southerners had much to overcome in their effort to control the Mississippi. Despite being under funded and over matched, the Confederates nevertheless assembled a forceful naval strategy that centered on the use of makeshift gunboats, unproven ironclad vessels, and a shaky command structure.

Cimprich, John  
Spring 2006

Cimprich, John  
Fort Pillow, A Civil War Massacre, and Public Memory.  
Louisiana State University Press, $29.95 ISBN 807131105

John Cimprich recounts the story of Fort Pillow, the sizable garrison that stood forty miles north of Memphis, Tennessee and was of strategic value during the Civil War. While the conflict that occurred there on April 12, 1864 was of great significance, the assault of the Union-held fort by Maj. Nathan B. Forrest and his men proved especially gruesome, as a pitched battle was transformed into the brutal massacre of black unionists. Cimprich places the carnage of this day in context by using firsthand reports and revealing the many social tensions that existed between secessionists and unionists as well as blacks and whites.

Milanich, Jerald T.  
Spring 2006

For thousands of soldiers, the Civil War came at great personal cost. Yet for Amos Jay Cummings, a sergeant major who commanded Union troops at both Fredericksburg and the Chancellorsville campaign, the Civil War thrust him from life in New York City to remote locals around the United States, including many of parts of the Florida peninsula. Writing under the nom de plume of Ziska, he ventured to this region in 1873 as correspondent for the *New York Sun* and revealed to his cosmopolitan readership this exotic and sometimes dangerous paradise that was inhabited by racists, rich soils, and renegade alligator hunters.

Walker, Scott

*Spring 2006*


Recruited from a small corner of rural Georgia, the men of the 57th Georgia Infantry fought and died together while battling their Union foes across much of the South. Yet like all other units that participate in war, the men of the 57th were not merely hardened soldiers; they too had hopes, anxieties, and fears that bound them together. From one private's secret desire to desert his mates to another's theft of a pie, the story of these men describes both the physical and personal battles that faced all who fought in the Civil War.

Hardorff, Richard G.

*Spring 2006*

The winners, so goes the saying, write history. Such was not the case for the Lakota and Cheyenne alliance that defeated Gen. George Armstrong Custer and 262 soldiers of the 7th Cavalry on June 25, 1876. Previously, scholars have discounted Indian's testimony regarding their victory at the battle of Little Big Horn for numerous reasons. This story, however, is told from the vantage point of the two warring tribes and makes use of first hand accounts from key participants such as Crazy Horse, Two Moons, and Crow King.

Wiggins, Sarah Woolfolk
Spring 2006


Rarely is a family's story recorded as thoroughly as was that of the Gorgas's. Large and often divided by geography, they corresponded almost daily throughout much of the Civil War and the years that followed. Their letters tell of the intimate relationship that existed between husband, Josiah, chief of the Confederate Ordinance Bureau, and wife, Amelia, University of Alabama librarian and dedicated mother. From courting to marriage, old age to death, this saga shows how two loving partners related to their children, the Civil War, and the realities of the post-war South.

Swanson, James L.
Spring 2006


The gunshot that echoed throughout Ford's Theatre on the night of April 14, 1865 ended the life of one man at the same time it spawned great notoriety for another. President Abraham Lincoln's assassination and the twelve-day search that ensued for the triggerman, John Wilkes Booth, captivated a nation still smarting from the pains of the Civil War. *Manhunt* is derived from primary source material and offers descriptions of public sentiment, the figures determined to apprehend a suspect, and Booth's vain attempt to stay ahead of the
law.

Silver, Andrew
Spring 2006

Silver, Andrew *Minstrelsy and Murder: The Crisis of Southern Humor, 1835-1925.* LSU Press, $42.95 ISBN 080713080X

The American South has long been thought of as being distinct place boasting an equally distinct approach to life. The latter is none more apparent than in the dark humor that Southerners adopted in the years after the Civil War. Stemming from the divisiveness and social anxieties that afflicted much of the post-war South, the traumatic yet comical wit of the region became a proud badge for writers like Mark Twain and further widened the cultural chasm that existed between Southerners and their fellow Americans.

Kelly, Carla, Editor
Spring 2006


In the years prior to the Civil War, the trans-Mississippi region served as stage on which wars were fought, goods were exchanged, and cultures came into contact for the first time. It was here, on the Missouri River in present-day North Dakota, that Swiss artist Rudolph Friederich Kurz came to study and paint American Indians from 1851-1852. Working out of Fort Union as a clerk for the American Fur Company, Kurz kept a daily journal documenting the activities within the fort as well as the result—both good and bad—of two cultures coexisting within a single region.

Downey, Tom
Spring 2006
Downey, Tom  *Planting the Capitalist South: Masters, Merchants, and Manufacturers in the Southern Interior, 1790-1860.* LSU Press, $49.95 ISBN 80713107

As a region that simultaneously promoted slavery as well as the commercial interests of banks, factories, and railroads, the antebellum South embraced economies that were ostensibly at odds. However different, these two economic models did coexist in areas such as the Savannah River Valley of western South Carolina. Here, commercial and industrial owners received state backing to advance their own interests over the agriculturally-based pursuits of the local population during the first half of the nineteenth century. By the time of Reconstruction, the Savannah River Valley and many regions like it were well on their way to adopting a capitalist economy.

Swisher, James K.
*Spring 2006*


Born into wealth and privilege on the large plantation island of Edisto, South Carolina, Micah Jenkins grew from being a conscientious youngster into one of the most exceptional brigade commanders in Gen. Robert E. Lee's Confederate army. Jenkins's story involves the active civic role he assumed prior to the war, his heroics at the battles of Bull Run and Chickamauga, and his accidental shooting and death during the battle of the Wilderness in May 1864.

Bresnahan, Jim
*Spring 2006*

Bresnahan, Jim  *Revisioning the Civil War: historians on Counter-Factual Scenarios.* McFarland Press, $32.00 ISBN 786423927

Historians have long been instructed not engage in what if history. Yet for all the facts, dates, and personalities of the historical record, humans seem just as preoccupied with what did happen in the past as with what did not. This book
engages in counter factual history not only to satisfy that very human need to answer what if but also to learn more about the events of the Civil War. Could the South have won the war if Lincoln never ascended to the presidency? Could Confederate forces have mustered enough strength to take Little Round Top during the battle of Gettysburg? And would Southern Reconstruction have assumed a different tenor if not for the actions of John Wilkes Booth?

Chaffin, Tom
Spring 2006


With its shoreline blockaded by the Union navy, the Confederacy had but little choice to enlist the use of commercial raiders to harass the menacing ships of the North. One of these raiders, the 1,600-ton steam cruiser C.S.S. *Shenandoah*, was commissioned to carry out such a mission after departing from Liverpool, England in October 1864. James Waddell captained the ship through perilous ice flows, a near mutiny, and 58,000 thousand miles of ocean only to discover that he and his crew were no longer considered enemy combatants by war's end; still adrift at sea, they were now seen as pirates in the eyes of the victorious North.

Dollar, Kent T.
Spring 2006

Dollar, Kent T. *Soldiers of the Cross: Confederate Soldiers-Christians and the Impact of the War on their Faith.* Mercer University Press, $35.00 ISBN 865549265

For many Southern soldiers, the Civil War was as much a test of physical determination as it was a test of one's own religiosity. In most cases, the conflict bolstered the Christian faith of those who fought for the Confederacy, as they looked to the Bible and fellow Christian soldiers for spiritual comfort and guidance. Some rebel soldiers even returned home to assume leadership positions in their local churches at war's end.
Witham, Mike
Spring 2006

**Witham, Mike** *Soul of the South.* American Book Publishing, $22.00 ISBN 1589822676

As a great soldier, spy, and diplomat, William Henry Lytham had much with which to concern himself while fighting for the Confederacy during the Civil War. Yet it is a young lady in Richmond, Virginia whom William seems most enamored. Upon his reassignment to Europe, where he serves as a Southern diplomat, he is forced to choose between his American love and another woman whom he meets in France. Even so, it is on the battlefields of Virginia where Lytham's true mettle is tested and he is able to reconcile the ambivalence he feels for the Southern cause.

Cauthen, Charles Edward
Spring 2006

**Cauthen, Charles Edward** *South Carolina Goes to War, 1860-1865.* University of South Carolina Press, $15.95 ISBN 1570035601

As the first Southern state to leave the Union, South Carolina was both at the epicenter of the secession movement and witness to the first shots of the Civil War. *South Carolina Goes to War* traces the evolution of this conflict, placing the Palmetto state within the broader context of the battle over states rights, the presidential election of 1860, and the political wrangling that took place in Columbia before, during, and after the demise of the Confederacy.

Underwood, Rodman L.
Spring 2006

Born in the West Indies and later a resident of Key West, Florida, Stephen Russell Mallory shared a close kinship with the sea. Even after becoming a member of the United States Senate in 1850, he gladly accepted the chairmanship of the Committee on Naval Affairs. Mallory felt obligated to side with his fellow Floridians, however, at the outbreak of the Civil War, and he assumed the role of naval secretary for the newly-formed Confederate government. During the next four years, Mallory championed a strategy that involved the use of ironclad warships and experimental weapons in an unsuccessful effort to penetrate the Union blockade that choked the South.

Russo, Peggy A., editor
Finkelman, Paul, editor
Spring 2006


With piercing eyes and a shock of dark hair, John Brown looked the role of an unstable outcast throughout much of his life. His bold and often bloody attempts to strike a blow at the heart of slavery did little to soften his image. In reality, Brown cared for little else but the abolition of slavery, so much so that he was executed after a failed attempt to rouse a slave uprising at Harpers Ferry, Virginia in October 1859. Terrible Swift Sword examines Brown's motives, religiosity, and psychology in an effort to determine both the character and legacy of this controversial figure.

Broadwater, Robert P.
Spring 2006


Often overshadowed by the epic struggles of the Civil War were numerous other battles that proved less memorable but no less significant. As Robert P. Broadwater reveals, the defeat of Gen. Braxton Bragg's Confederate forces near
Perryville, Kentucky in October 1862 confirmed that the Blue Grass state would remain under Union control. Missed opportunities, wasted chances, and bitter infighting among the Confederate high command resulted in the Rebel defeat and convinced many observers living in this crucial border state of the South's inability to win the war.

Adams, Doug
Spring 2006


Judged by the New Orleans Military Board to be an important improvement on Colt's revolver, the pistol designed by French physician Jean Francois Alexander LeMat offered new hope to Confederates in search of a more effective sidearm. Yet like its Southern patrons, the combination revolver and shotgun succumbed to competitors who boasted more funding and greater capital. Doug Adams traces the life of LeMat, his struggle to secure financial backing for the unique firearm, and the Frenchman's wartime adventures alongside celebrated leaders of the Confederacy.

Fleming, James R.
Spring 2006


Although most originated from the small farming communities located north of Memphis, the men who enlisted in Company C of the 9th Tennessee Infantry were of diverse backgrounds and occupations. As their letters, memoirs, and obituaries indicate, however, these 126 soldiers forged bonds that proved unbreakable even during the heat of battle. James R. Fleming describes this band of brothers and, in doing so, reveals how their experiences while fighting at places like Columbus, Perryville, and Atlanta transformed them from a group of rural Tennesseans into the only company to earn the moniker the Southern Confederates.
Anderson, Gary Clayton
Spring 2006


The history of nineteenth-century Texas has long boasted several momentous events; the mere mention of the Alamo evokes thoughts of a distant time and place inhabited by heroes named Bowie, Houston, and Crockett. Historian Gary Clayton Anderson dispels these more idealized histories of the Lone Star state, suggesting that both Anglo settlers and government officials engaged in a policy of ethnic cleansing in an effort to eliminate the Indian populations that inhabited the region.

Zinn, John G.
Spring 2006


Against the backdrop of the June 1863 draft riots that plagued New York City, the 33rd New Jersey regiment was enlisting fresh recruits for battle in the Civil War. Despite a desertion rate of almost 25 percent prior to departing, the 33rd set out for what proved to be a trek across much of the southeastern United States. There, they engaged in three major campaigns under the command of Gen. William T. Sherman and laid waste to much of the Deep South before returning home in July 1865.

Dougherty, Kevin
Spring 2006

As winter gave way to the spring of 1862, Union general George B. McClellan launched a military campaign meant to destroy the Confederate capitol and hence the Confederacy itself. Author Kevin Dougherty examines the strategic and tactical maneuvering of both McClellan and his Southern foe, Gen. Robert E. Lee, suggesting that the personality traits of these celebrated leaders ultimately prevented Union forces from seizing Richmond and ending the war.

Toney, Marcus B.
Spring 2006


Taken from the memoirs of Marcus B. Toney, a soldier enlisted in the 1st Tennessee Infantry, The Privations of a Private recounts the story of man who fought in battles such as Shiloh, Chickamauga, and the Wilderness. Yet Toney's chronicles offer much more than a simple retelling of several Civil War campaigns; they also reveal a man who believed that the post-war South should take on new life while retaining its social and political traditions. To this end, Toney secured employment as a freight agent for a local railroad company, became a regular contributor to a publication for Civil War veterans, and promoted the white supremacist ideals championed by the Ku Klux Klan.

Fleming, Thomas
Spring 2006


After accepting the surrender of Gen. Robert E. Lee in April 1865, Union general Ulysses S. Grant famously pronounced, The war is over û the rebels are our countrymen again. Yet not all of Grant's Northern counterparts were of a similar opinion. Believing Southern officials worthy of punishment, Charles A. Dana, the Assistant Secretary of War, attempted to prosecute, convict, and
execute Lee for commanding the Confederate forces. Historian Thomas Fleming constructs this fictitious yet none too improbable account to illustrate the many real sentiments felt by both North and South after four years of civil war.

Barton, William E.  
Spring 2006


A former Congregational minister, author William E. Barton has focused his religious expertise on a man whom some scholars have regarded as being less than spiritual. While Abraham Lincoln seldom advertised his faith, he was a deeply religious man whose beliefs evolved over the course of a lifetime. Barton explores Lincoln's writings and speeches, as well as the testimony of those closest to him, to illustrate why many contemporaries referred to the war-time president as Father Abraham.

Kelsey, Marie Ellen  
Spring 2006


As a partner to the preceding 17 volumes of the *Bibliographies of the Presidents of the United States, Ulysses S. Grant: A Bibliography* offers a complete guide to the numerous works dedicated the man who both orchestrated the Northern offensive during the Civil War and the effort to reconstruct the South after its defeat. Including everything from memoirs to monographs and focusing on topics ranging from the president's early childhood in Ohio to his later years in New York City, Marie Ellen Kelsey's bibliography features the most pertinent writings by and about Ulysses S. Grant.

Rappaport, Doreen  
Verniero, Joan  
Spring 2006

Doreen Rappaport and Joan Verniero outline the major events of Civil War by telling the stories of seven unique individuals. Men and women, white and black, Northerner and Southerner, these people approached the war in different ways but were all changed by their experiences. Replete with maps and illustrations, *United No More!* presents the history of the war such that it allows younger readers to understand the conflict's most significant moments while also showing how the struggle affected individuals from every strata of American society.

**Davis, William C., editor**  
**Robertson, Jr., James I., editor**  
**Spring 2006**

**Davis, William C., editor and Robertson, Jr., James I., editor.** *Virginia at War, 1861.* University Press of Kentucky, $35.00 ISBN 813123720

Virginia may have been the eighth state to succeed from the Union, but it was the first to provide cohesiveness to the fledgling Confederate States of America. Home to Gen. Robert E. Lee as well as the Rebel capital of Richmond, the Old Dominion state served as the political hub and primary military arena for North and South. The eight essays presented by editors William C. Davis and James I. Robertson, Jr. imparts not only the significant role the state played during the war but also reveals the social and cultural impact the conflict had on average Virginians.

**Brust, James S.**  
**Pohanka, Brian C.**  
**Barnard, Sandy**  
**Spring 2006**

The battle of Little Bighorn has captured the American imagination in part because so little is known about the bloody clash that resulted in the death of Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer. Like their leader, every member of the 7th United States Cavalry that participated in Custer's Last Stand perished while battling Sioux and Cheyenne warriors on the afternoon of June 25, 1876. *Where Custer Fell* tells the story of that day by presenting rare manuscripts, maps of the battlefield, and contemporary photographs that show Little Big Horn as it was more than a century ago.

Cooper, Edward S.

*Spring 2006*

Cooper, Edward S. *William Babcock Hazen: The Best Hated Man.* Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, $65.00 ISBN 838640893

As Edward S. Cooper reveals, the adversities of the Civil War did not always forge bonds of brotherhood between comrades. His examination of diaries, memoirs, and contemporary newspapers show that William Babcock Hazen, a decorated major general in the Union army, shared a strained and sometimes rancorous relationship with his Northern counterparts during and after the Civil War. Running feuds with men like George Armstrong Custer and Ulysses S. Grant earned Hazen a commission to the western plains as well as the moniker the best hated man.