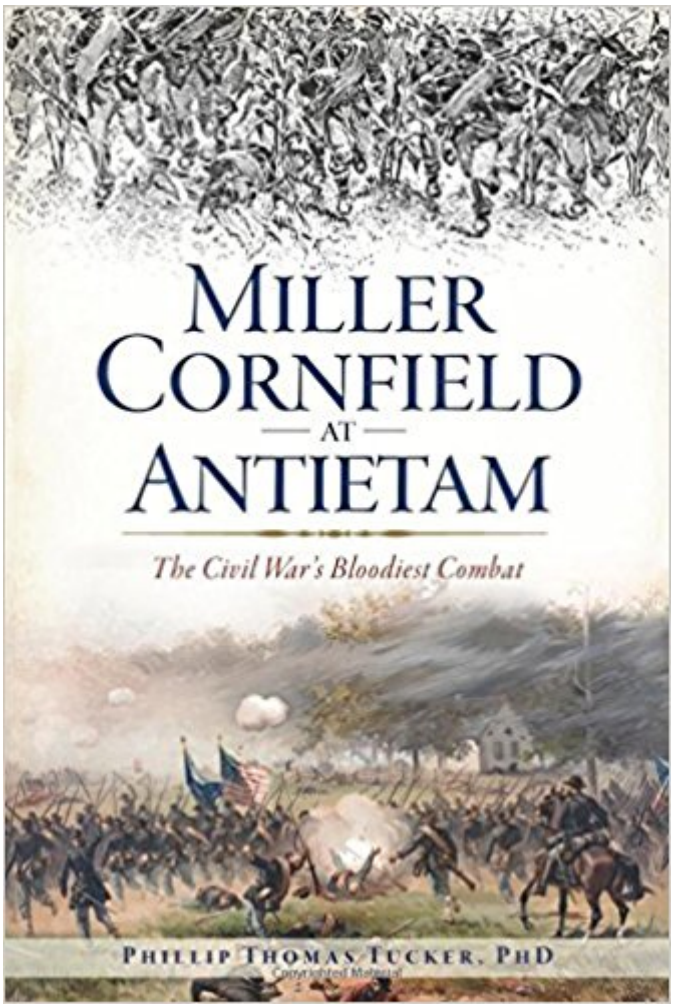
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Miller Cornfield At Antietam: The Civil War's Bloodiest Combat (Civil War Series)



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Synopsis

On September 17, 1862, the forces of Major General George B. McClellan and his Union Army of the Potomac confronted Robert E. Lee's entire Army of Northern Virginia at the Battle of Antietam in Sharpsburg, Maryland. The Union forces mounted a powerful assault on Lee's left flank in the idyllic Miller Cornfield. It was the single bloodiest day in the history of the Civil War. The elite combat units of the Union's Iron Brigade and the Confederate Texas Brigade held a dramatic showdown and suffered immense losses through vicious attacks and counterattacks sweeping through the cornstalks. Author Phillip Thomas Tucker reveals the triumph and tragedy of the greatest sacrifice of life of any battleground in America.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Dr. Phillip Thomas Tucker is an author and historian of numerous acclaimed publications, including George Washington's Surprise Attack, Pickett's Charge, Death at the Little Bighorn and more. After earning his PhD in 1990, he took a position as civilian historian with the department of defense. He resides in Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

Not a bad history--gives a different perspective on the battle anyway. I agree that does have redundancy--some exact phrases are repeated. I have read several books about Antietam and I have found that a map resource is helpful for many--for this one it is essential if one wants to really

understand the flow of the action. I keep the "Maps of Antietam" by Gottfried available at all times.

A history book that reads like one should. Packed with information and most importantly the stories of the Participates.

How can you write a "serious" book about a Civil War battle and not include a single map? Miller Cornfield at Antietam by Tucker is such a book. I had to stop reading at page 100 because I couldn't take any more of his much too flowery prose. It seems that only the Iron Brigade and Hood's Texas Brigade were the only important units that took part. His writing over and over of these two units proved to be too much for me. I threw in the towel at page 100. This books adds nothing new to the story of Antietam.

"Miller Cornfield at Antietam: The Civil War's Bloodiest Combat," by Phillip Thomas Tucker is a detailed, informative and well researched account of one of the bloodiest battles during the civil war. Tucker gives a deep description of the landscape, the soldiers and the townspeople that they encounter in the days leading up into the "Ill Fated Invasion of Maryland" on the 17th of September 1862. His main focus Is to highlight the under-recognized men of the Texas Brigade. Tucker does an excellent job detailing personal accounts of these men from letters, memoirs and diaries of the daily experiences each man felt.The only negative that I would say about "Miller Cornfield," is maybe it is a little redundant but with the wealth of information I learned; that was easily overlooked.The Texas Brigade, in my opinion after reading Tucker's account, is definitely too lightly mentioned in our history. Tucker documents how these men went into battle after marching and fighting for months with no reprieve. Lee even knew that he was sending his men in to a battle that they were without proper clothes or nourishment. The South miscalculated the growth season of the Northern fields due to their previance reliance on the lush long growing season that was available during the Mexican-American War. The Texas Brigade was compromised of tough, frontiersmen who had been fighting to live in the West in less refined areas. They made up an elite group of men who were some of the toughest West combat soldiers. Although the South ended up decimated, this battle in this field, against all odds, saved the day for Lee's Army to stay alive for one more day. This battle also gave the Union the defeat needed for Abraham Lincoln to release the Emancipation Proclamation. So, for you history buffs, especially civil war lovers, this book will help you see this battle up close and personal.

As someone interested in Civil War history, I already know the basic facts of which generals won which battles. ThatÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s why I love books that take a well-known event or battle and break it down to a play-by-play, explaining exactly which regiments or brigades moved across small sections of land, why they were directed to do so, and what the outcome was. Dr. Phillip Tucker does a great job of analyzing the role of Miller Cornfield in this book. Miller Cornfield was a pivotal location in the battle of Antietam. This was where General LeeÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s Texas Brigade counterattacked against the northern offensive, pushing the action of the battle further to the south, where LeeÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s troops held better defensive positions. Tucker focuses on the early morning fighting in Miller Cornfield, using letters, memoirs and diaries of common soldiers, both Union and Confederate, to tell the story of this incredible battle through their eyes. During the Civil War, it quickly became known by both sides that soldiers from the western frontier of the US were better soldiers because of the more extreme and dangerous conditions in which they lived. In this battle, the only all-western brigade of the Potomac (the Iron Brigade) met the only all-western brigade of LeeÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s Army (the Texas brigade) in an epic struggle between the best soldiers the North and South had to offer. Reading about the action in such detail really brings home the tragedy of so many young men sacrificing their lives for a cause they believed in. I have read several of Dr. TuckerÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s books, and once again I appreciate the extensive endnotes. They allow me to follow up and read more about the sections of the book that really interested me. IÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢d recommend this book for anyone looking for a closer analysis of the crucial Battle of Antietam.

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