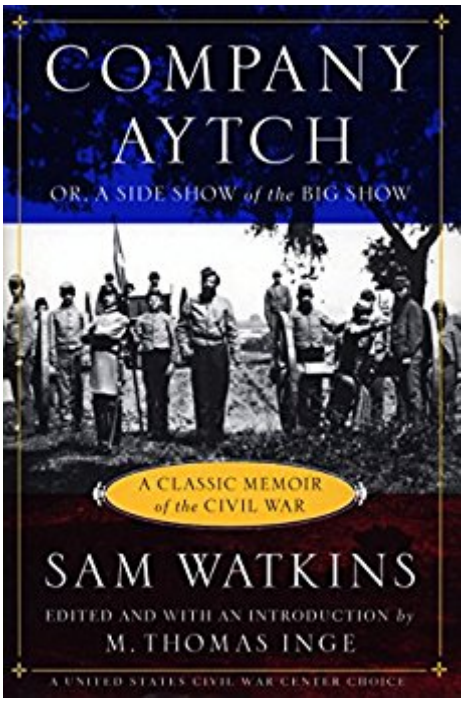
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# Company Aytch




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## Synopsis

Among the plethora of books about the Civil War,Ã Â Company Aytch stands out for its uniquely personal view of the events as related by a most engaging writerÃ¢â ¬â •a man with Twain-like talents who served as a foot soldier for four long years in the Confederate army. Originally published in 1881 as a series of articles in the Columbia, Tennessee, Herald, Sam Watkins's account has long been recognized by historians as one of the most lively and witty accounts of the war. Parallels between this text and The Red Badge of Courage suggest that Stephen Crane was also among Private Watkins's readers. This edition of Company Aytch also contains six previously uncollected articles by Sam Watkins, plus other valuable supplementary materials, including a map and period illustrations, a glossary of technical and military terms, a chronology of events, a concise history of Watkins's regiment, a biographical directory of individuals mentioned in the narrative, and geographic and topical indexes. This new edition of a Civil War classic is bound to become the edition of choice for students, military buffs, and general readers alike.From the Trade Paperback edition.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

True Story. Sam is a real person like you and me. Not polished, yet knows some Latin. An eyewitness to the life and battles of a soldier in the Civil War. You feel his emotions. He puts you there. He gives you a realistic look at what day to day life was like with no apology for bad attitudes about the war, hatred for poor leadership, and praise for good leadership. He talks about survival without stooping to self preservation. His character is challenged and he shares his failures and success. He introduces you to the unsung hero's. It is a guide through the Civil War from a Confederate foot soldier. He doesn't try to win you over to his way of thinking. The line of differences between the North and South, who was wright and wrong is not his interest and has wisely left it to the Historians. The back of the book outlines the events of the Civil War chronologically which makes it a great reference book and this book is used by historians to collaborate the events of the Civil War. I would like to think that my family was like Sam when they fought in the wars that have shaped our Nation.

I personally believe this is one of the best personal accounts of the War Between the States I've ever read. Sam spoke in a way that reaches out and grabs you, takes you to his era and the many experiences he had during military life. I have read this book many times and only enjoy it more each read. If you have an interest in history and want a first hand account of what life was like, please get this book and turn thru its pages. You will be pulled back in time and find it hard to put down.I also admire Sam Watkins' profession of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. He is very open about his faith and I admire this as a fellow Christian.

A really interesting read. I have always been fascinated by the civil war and have seen many documentaries and books on the subject but to actually read details of someone who was actually there at the different events, not only the battles but what was going through the thoughts of a private, not senior officer and how through his mind you could totally sympathise with Sam of the terrible struggle it must have been.I loved the humour throughout and his many observations of both people and events through these years.Anyone with an interest of this war, I would strongly recommend to purchase this book

This is a private's account, from where boots hit the ground, so this memoir will especially resonate with any veteran or veteran's family. This is the kind of first-person eyewitness account that will, literally, keep you up at night. I lost sleep, trying to stay up and find out what happened next in that

terrible, unnecessary "war" that was brought on by Lincoln lies, disheveling, refusal to meet the Peace Commissioners, and then full-scale invasion of the sovereign state of Virginia in 1861.Sam gave me one haunting image in this book that I will never forget, and, which I will not repeat in full here due to its gruesome nature, but that any man or woman who has ever been in military uniform will recognize and appreciate. He had been wounded and was WALKING to the rear aid station (tough men, in that time), when he overtook another wounded fellow, walking more slowly. When Sam got closer, he noticed that the man's left arm was missing and bloody. I will leave it at that, although there is more to the story.Sam was in lots of very tough battles. That he survived at all, against all odds, indicates that he must have been one heck of a fighting, agile, and disciplined soldier in the ranks. He gives the exact survival numbers for his unit, and they are incredibly tragic, of course.This book should be at the top of the list for home libraries and for home-schooling parents. I would place it just next to _War Years With Jeb Stuart_ as about the best Confederate memoirs or diaries that I have found, so far.Highly recommended.

Samuel R. Watkins bequeaths us his authentic experience of the Civil War as lived and observed by a Confederate private from Tennessee. Often ribald, often horrifying, his epic work illuminates that dark chapter of our country's history.

I didn't actually read it but I purchased it for my nephew who has been hospitalized since the end of January 2013 at St Vincent's Hopsital in Birmingham, Al and has been back and forth in ICU about 10 times. He specifically asked me if I could find it for him. He is very interested in anything pertaining to the Civil War and was about to become a part in enactments before he had both legs amputated up to his knees and has too many other issues to mention here, but including the loss of his voice due to an injury received during a surgery there. His name is Anthony Wayne Murray in One Main ICU at St. Vincents Hospital in Birmingham, AL. He is 53 years of age.I love the book because it made him so happy.

Well, not quite there, and you probably would not want to be. However, if you want want to *read about* the experience of the day-to-day of a combat infantry foot soldier (probably quite similar for almost any war in history), this is up there with "The Red Badge of Courage" and "All Quiet on the Western Front" with the exception that the latter two books are fiction. "Aytch" is actual experience. Neither an eloquent writer nor a university philosopher, author Sam Watkins can spin your head with perceptions and perspectives on the nature of war on one page and nauseate your stomach with

vivid hand-to-hand combat descriptions on the next page. With regard to his occasional religious commentary, ask yourself if he sincerely meant it or if he was cynically joking.

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