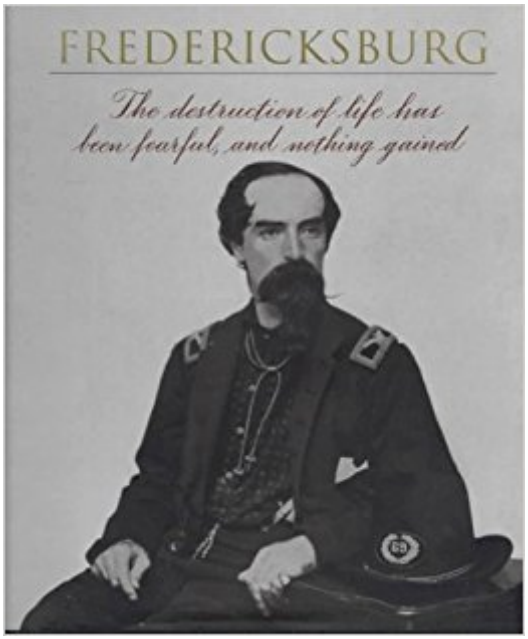
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Fredericksburg (Voices Of The Civil War)



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Synopsis

Book by Time-Life Books

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Book by Time-Life Books

This is the best of the Time-Life Civil War books that I have purchased. The book has many quotations, but the quotes are from exceptionally important people in the war. Also, the quotes are from enlisted men as well as officers, from BOTH sides of the war. I found this text to be of value in understanding the viewpoint of the soldier who took part in this important battle.

The power of this Time-Life series, "Voices of the Civil War," is the personal approach through letters and diaries and reports from those who were involved in one way or another with a battle or situation. This time? Fredericksburg.This was one of the most ghastly battles of the Civil War from the Union’s perspective. A series of errors slowed a lightning quick move to a snail’s pace, allowing Robert E. Lee’s forces to occupy high ground. Ambrose Burnside, commanding the Union forces, decided that he would cross the Rappahannock and assault the high ground above Fredericksburg. A grand slaughter followed.As with others in the series, this volume begins with an artist’s sketch of the field of battle. There are a series of essays, describing the background of the battle and providing some narrative about the struggle itself. The "Order of Battle" appears on page 15.

Casualties? See page 133 for the butcher's bill. 5,377 Confederate troops were killed, wounded, or captured and missing versus 12,653 Union casualties.Some voices. . . Lt. Colonel E. Porter Alexander speaks of the grandeur as the Union Army began massing and started firing its artillery toward Fredericksburg. The next contribution is by a resident of Fredericksburg, Francis Bernard, who reports on the destruction wreaked upon his house and community by Union fire. There is a poignant description by General John Bell Hood with Stonewall Jackson, in which Hood said that he thought he would survive the war--but be shattered by battle. And Jackson indicated that he did not expect to survive (page 52).A good person's eye view of this bloody battle.

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