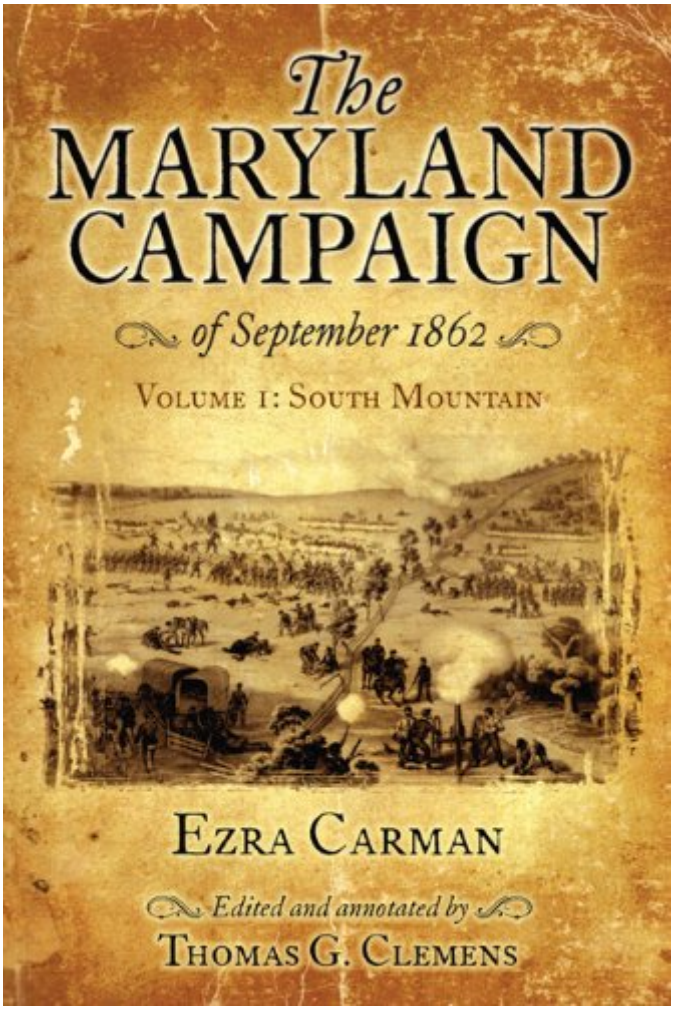
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Maryland Campaign Of September 1862: Volume 1, South Mountain



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Synopsis

WINNER FOR REPRINT, 2010, ARMY HISTORICAL FOUNDATION DISTINGUISHED BOOK AWARD When Robert E. Lee marched his Army of Northern Virginia into Maryland in early September 1862, Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan moved his reorganized and revitalized Army of the Potomac to meet him. The campaign included some of the bloodiest, most dramatic, and influential combat of the entire Civil War. Combined with Southern failures in the Western Theater, the fighting dashed the ConfederacyÃ¢â ¬â„¢s best hope for independence, convinced President Abraham Lincoln to announce the Emancipation Proclamation, and left America with what is still its bloodiest day in history.One of the campaignÃ¢â ¬â„¢s participants was Ezra A. Carman, the colonel of the 13th New Jersey Infantry. Wounded earlier in the war, Carman would achieve brigade command and fight in more than twenty battles before being mustered out as a brevet brigadier general. After the horrific fighting of September 17, 1862, he recorded in his diary that he was preparing Ã¢â ¬Å“a good map of the Antietam battle and a full account of the action.Ã¢â ¬Â• Unbeknownst to the young officer, the project would become the most significant work of his life.Appointed as the Ã¢â ¬Å“Historical ExpertÃ¢â ¬Â• to the Antietam Battlefield Board in 1894, Carman and the other members solicited accounts from hundreds of veterans, scoured through thousands of letters and maps, and assimilated the material into the hundreds of cast iron tablets that still mark the field today. Carman also wrote an 1,800-page manuscript on the campaign, from its start in northern Virginia through McClellanÃ¢â ¬â„¢s removal from command in November 1862. Although it remained unpublished for more than a century, many historians and students of the war consider it to be the best overall treatment of the campaign ever written.Dr. Thomas G. Clemens (editor), recognized internationally as one of the foremost historians of the Maryland Campaign, has spent more than two decades studying Antietam and editing and richly annotating CarmanÃ¢â ¬â„¢s exhaustively written manuscript. The result is 'The Maryland Campaign of September 1862', CarmanÃ¢â ¬â„¢s magisterial account published for the first time in two volumes. Jammed with firsthand accounts, personal anecdotes, maps, photos, a biographical dictionary, and a database of veteransÃ¢â ¬â„¢ accounts of the fighting, this long-awaited study will be read and appreciated as battle history at its finest.About the Authors: Ezra Ayres Carman was born in Oak Tree, New Jersey, on February 27, 1834, and educated at Western Military Academy in Kentucky. He fought with New Jersey organizations throughout the Civil War, mustering out as a brevet brigadier general. He was appointed to the Antietam National Cemetery Board of Trustees and later to the Antietam Battlefield Board in 1894. Carman also served on the Chattanooga-Chickamauga Battlefield Commission. He died in 1909 on Christmas day and was buried just below the Custis-Lee mansion in Arlington

Cemetery.Thomas G. Clemens earned his doctoral degree at George Mason University, where he studied under Maryland Campaign historian Dr. Joseph L. Harsh. Tom has published a wide variety of magazine articles and book reviews, has appeared in several documentary programs, and is a licensed tour guide at Antietam National Battlefield. An instructor at Hagerstown Community College, he also helped found and is the current president of Save Historic Antietam Foundation, Inc., a preservation group dedicated to saving historic properties.

Book Information

File Size: 2593 KB

Print Length: 576 pages

Publisher: Savas Beatie (May 20, 2010)

Publication Date: May 20, 2010

Sold by:Ã Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B0042VJ1LM

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Not Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #12,936 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #1 inÃ Â Books > History > Americas > United States > Civil War > Campaigns & Battlefields > Antietam #3 inÃ Â Books > History > Americas > United States > Civil War > Confederacy #3 inÃ Â Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > History > Americas > United States > Civil War > Campaigns & Battlefields

Customer Reviews

Exellent book! Having lived on the West side of Fox’s gap on Reno monument road, about a mile from the top for about 5 years, Ive spent many days walking those hallowed fields and woods. I’ve stood behind the stonewall where the North Carolinians fought and died. A very haunting, spiritual place for me. Especially in the evening twilight. I’ve even stood in my yard late at night and could swear I heard gunshots on top of the mountain, maybe my imagination, maybe not ! Carman’s book holds a special place on my shelf beside John Michael Priest’s. Those two together told me all I need to know about the where it all took place and the intense combat between men who fought for

what they thought was right. Highly recommended !!

I CANT IMAGINE THE TIME AND EFFORT IT TOOK THOMAS CLEMENS TOOK TO FIND ALL THE RESOURCES AND PUT IT IN SUCH A SMOOTH EASY READ. THE FIRST CHAPTER STANDS OUT BECAUSE ITS ALL ON MARYLAND AND THE POLITICS AND INFIGHTING AS GOVERNER HICKS TRIES TO KEEP MARYLAND IN THE UNION. AGAIN, AS ALL SAVASBEATIE BOOKS THE MAPS ARE INCREDIBLE. THIS BOOK IS NOT FOR BEGINERS, I WOULD RECOMMEND SEARS LANDSCAPE TURNED RED AND AT LEAST ONE OTHER BOOK READ AND STILL HAVE A HUNGER FOR MORE INFO ON ANTIETAM. I'M A 20 YEAR WW2 HISTORY BUFF, I GOT INTO THE CIVIL WAR ABOUT 2014 AND HAVE ROUGHLY 350 BOOKS ON THE SUBJECT. MY POINT BEING I WAS VERY WELL READ ON THE SUBJECT BEFORE TACKLING THIS BOOK. I USUALLY READ 1 BOOK ON A DIFFERENT CAMPAIGN THEN 1 ON ANTIETAM. SOMETHING ABOUT THE BATTLE KEEPS ME COMING BACK, AND EZRA CARMENS LIFELONG TRILOGY IS OUTSTANDING.ALTHOUGH HARTWIGS FIRST OF A SERIES ON THE MARYLAND CAMPAIGN IS A SOLID READ BECAUSE EZRA ACTUALLY WAS THERE AND FOUGHT THERE THIS WILL ALWAYS BE THE DEFINITIVE ACCOUNT. THANK YOU THOMAS CLEMENS AND SAVAS BEATIE

Much has been written about the Maryland Campaign surrounding the Battle of Antietam, but there have always been the classics. As it is with classics, especially classics which were written right after the war, they run out of print and are quite difficult to get your hands on. For the longest time, I had heard of the great narrative which Ezra Carman had written on the entirety of the Maryland Campaign but was never able to get it. That was, until Thomas G. Clemens and Savas Beatie released the work in an annotated fashion. Ezra Ayres Carman was born in Oak Tree, New Jersey and attended the Western Military Academy in Kentucky. During the Civil War, he fought with New Jersey units and faced some of the fiercest fighting throughout the war including the Battle of Antietam. After the war, he was appointed to the Antietam National Cemetery Board of Trustees and the Battlefield Board. Thomas G. Clemens has spent years studying the Maryland Campaign and gained his doctorate at George Mason University. He has written a myriad of magazine articles and has appeared in documentaries along with being a licensed tour guide at Antietam National Battlefield. Also, he is an instructor at Hagerstown Community College and also founded the Save Historic Antietam Foundation. I should make one thing clear about this work. It is not a reprint. So many times when classics are reprinted, that it all they do, but this one is not one of those works.

Clemens annotates the whole document with modern sourcing and extensive footnotes. Published in two volumes, the first deals with the Battle of South Mountain and some of the preliminary details of the campaign while the second deals with the Battle of Antietam. The annotations throughout not only give us an up to date look into the Maryland Campaign with modern sources, but a look into the mind of Carman as he was writing the work. Clemens tells us who Carman was more likely to paint in a greater light because of his experiences in the war and the politicking going on between Lincoln and McClellan throughout. While Carman states that this was not just a battle against armies, but a battle between the high command in Washington, Clemens adds that to tell us that not all was easy for the commanders. One of the aspects of the campaign which is largely ignored is the action taken at HarperÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s Ferry before the Battle of Antietam and here, Carman places it in his narrative. The details of the capture of Union soldiers at the garrison is greatly important to the study of the campaign and here, it is given explicit detail through both the narrative of Carman and the annotation of Clemens. The Maryland Campaign of September 1862 Volume I: South Mountain is a great addition to any Civil War library and is highly recommended for any reader. The excellent map system used in the book is a great aid to the narrative and the annotations are second to none. This is an excellent printing of this classic and goes to show that there is more to write about when it comes to the Maryland Campaign even if it is through annotations. Thomas G. Clemens has done a fantastic job and has performed a labor of love by pouring his knowledge into this text. Highly recommended!Matthew Bartlett - Author, Gettysburg Chronicle

Almost finished reading "The Maryland Campaign of September 1862 Vol. 1: South Mountain" by Carmen and Clemens in tandem with "The Maps of Antietam" by Bradley M. Gottfied. Great way to learn about the ebb and flow of events of the battle. While I've read many books about the Antietam campaign, the maps give a visualization of what Carmen relates which helps me understand movments down the company level as they unfold. Looking forward to Volume II.

This book is not for the casual civil war reader. I say that as a compliment. If you want to seriously study the Marlyand campaign, you must start here. The Carman manuscript has long been acknowledged as the most thorougly researched account of this period of the War. Clemens treatment of the manuscript has only enhanced that. The footnotes and bibliography are an easy road map to further study. Furthermore, on most of the debatable points Clemens points out Carman's biases, presents countering opinions and leaves the reader to choose. This gives the reader a more balanced account of the campaign. The maps by Gene Thorp are outstanding and

add considerable clarity to the narrative. If you are looking for a detailed account, often down to the company level, this is the book for you. If you are trying to choose between this and the Pierro edition of the Carman manuscript, I would choose this edition for the maps alone.

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