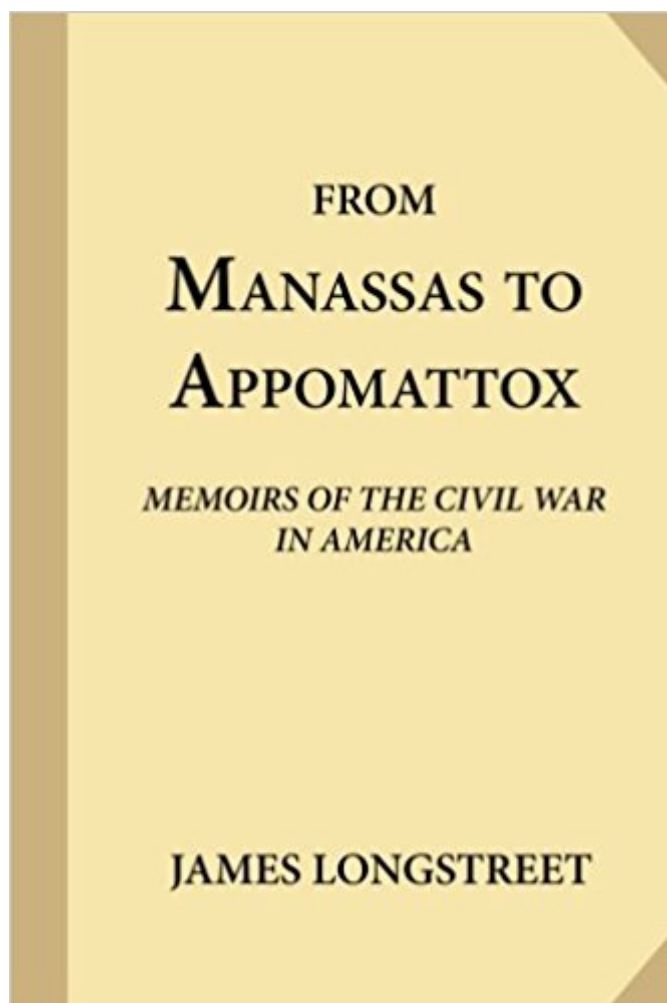


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From Manassas To Appomattox: Memoirs Of The Civil War In America



Synopsis

Originally published in 1896, *From Manassas to Appomattox: Memoirs of the Civil War in America* is a detailed day to day account of the American Civil War by General James Longstreet, one of the foremost Confederate generals of the American Civil War and the principal subordinate to General Robert E. Lee.

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Book Information

Paperback: 448 pages

Publisher: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform (May 24, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1546894152

ISBN-13: 978-1546894155

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.7 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 92 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,838,520 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #107 in [Books > History > Americas > United States > Civil War > Campaigns & Battlefields > Appomattox](#) #18787 in [Books > History > Military > United States](#)

Customer Reviews

James Longstreet (January 8, 1821 – January 2, 1904) was one of the foremost Confederate generals of the American Civil War and the principal subordinate to General Robert E. Lee, who called him his "Old War Horse." He served under Lee as a corps commander for many of the famous battles fought by the Army of Northern Virginia in the Eastern Theater, but also with Gen. Braxton Bragg in the Army of Tennessee in the Western Theater. Biographer and historian Jeffrey D. Wert wrote that "Longstreet ... was the finest corps commander in the Army of Northern Virginia; in fact, he was arguably the best corps commander in the conflict on either side."

Blow by blow description of Civil War battles...told by General Lee's chief strategist, General Longstreet...who was there from start to finish.I downloaded the (free) Kindle version of this book. This version does not come with maps or illustrations, so there's no way to visualize the complicated battle scenes that he describes and it gets very confusing.Each page of this book is loaded with names of the battle adversaries but not their affiliations. So, unless you're a hard core Civil War buff (and already know who all these Generals are), it's hard to tell whether they are Union or Confederate. Again, very confusing.I had to put the book down after about 30% and never finished it.

General Longstreet was, perhaps, the Confederacy's finest General but he's not its best author. He identifies the units, at some great length, by their commanders, without reference to whether they are Union or Confederate. The battles are hard to follow without a contemporary map.I downloaded

the book because since early in High School, I've been reading about the Civil War. It helped that my father was the head of the Military History Course Sequence at the Air Force Academy, so we had a house full of military history books. I'm afraid that someone, who is not already up to speed on the Civil War, will have difficulty with this book.

Longstreet's memoir provides an excellent view of the civil war from the standpoint of possibly the south's greatest general. Includes humorous vignettes associated with both the North and South sides. No photos or maps, but this edition is typographically flawless, which is not true for the other version that I purchased first.

If you want to know the disposition of each company, each brigade, each division and each Army in every action in which Longstreet participated then this is the book for you. No maps. Had to put it down before I fell into a coma.

There are other Civil War authors with more literary styles, and of course all opinions in all publications, both primary and secondary, are biased--but Longstreet is a major writer of the era, and has to be read. Personally I think he often defends himself well against his detractors--but decide for yourself!

General Longstreet does a great job in presenting the events during the Civil War that he participated in. He must have had an outstanding memory and good references as his descriptions of the battles and the surrounding countryside is almost beyond belief. This book is a must have reference for Civil War buffs.

I'm only about half way through this book but so far it has been very informational. Longstreet describes the various battles from a tactical point of view. He almost sounds like an analyst describing a football game. He even has in depth information about Union troop strength, strategies and commanders of the given battles. I am very lucky to live in northern Virginia as I can go out and explore first hand where a number of these battles took place.

If you ever wanted to know what a participant in a book was thinking, then this is your book. General Longstreet wrote his thoughts on each affair. It is interesting to see the thought and organization that went into each move the army made. I loved his comments on the individuals involved, their

character and attitude. I enjoyed the book, but you must be up on your civil war history to understand.

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