

The book was found

The Army Of The Potomac: Mr. Lincoln's Army, Glory Road, Stillness Of Appomattox. Three Volumes



Synopsis

Three volumes, hardcovers published by Doubleday, 1962.

Book Information

Hardcover

Publisher: Doubleday (1962)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1137012935

ISBN-13: 978-1137012937

ASIN: B0007FGXAO

Package Dimensions: 8.4 x 5.7 x 1.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 254 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #615,787 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #131 in [Books > History > Military > Regiments](#) #753 in [Books > History > Americas > United States > Civil War > Campaigns & Battlefields](#) #6378 in [Books > History > Military > United States](#)

Customer Reviews

Three volumes, hardcovers published by Doubleday, 1962.

I am rereading this wonderful series and after having read many, many other books on aspects of the Civil War I am convinced this is still the best of all! There may be an error or two--65 years of further research would guarantee that--but the story, oh, the story Catton tells. I love the way he works participants' personal observations into the military record, how he relates personal information and day-by-day soldier life amid his detailing of battles and strategies. The other two books in the series will get my rereading presently (Glory Road is, to me, the most effective of all his many books at explaining the politics and the change in the political structures and relationships resultant from the war). Any Civil War student must read this series as a benchmark against which to measure all others.

A Stillness at Appomattox by Bruce Catton is a work of non-fiction by one of the premier historians of the 20th century. This narrative retraces the steps of the Army of the Potomac in the final year of the Civil War and begins with the story of General Judson Kilpatrick's daring raid in the Spring of 1864 through the capitulation of Robert E. Lee's, Army of Northern Virginia, at Appomattox

Courthouse April 1865. Catton examines the lives of the soldiers of the Army of the Potomac and its leaders, especially that of its lifeblood, General Ulysses S. Grant. The author tells the story of the final year of the Civil War through the eyes of the Union Army, and is very pragmatic as to its strength and weaknesses, especially in matters of race and recruiting, placing great detail on the complexities of such a force cobbled together from many different worlds and cultures. Even though he tells the story from the vantage point of the Union Army, he is very forgiving of Lee and his hard scrabble veterans, fighting tooth and nail for every inch of Virginia soil blocking the Union efforts every step of the way. *A Stillness at Appomattox*, tells the story of the battles of The Wilderness, Spotsylvania, Cold Harbor, the Crater, Siege of Petersburg, Five Forks, capture of Petersburg and Richmond and the chase to Danville with Grant trapping his quarry at Appomattox Courthouse, where at the McLean House, General Robert E. Lee signed the surrender of the illustrious Army of Northern Virginia and the guns went silent. Catton goes into great detail in describing the battles, bringing them to life and painting vivid portraits of struggles, suffering, triumph and heroism. Catton painfully paints a true and blemished picture of the true costs of the final year of the war, uncovering each stone to show the true face of war. This author details manpower and political issues, supply issues and paints pictures of camp life, revealing the soldiers in their true form. In *A Stillness at Appomattox*, Catton points out some very important changes, marking turning points in the way war is fought, such as the beginning of total war, with the depredations in the Shenandoah Valley. He also describes in great detail the switch from close quarter Napoleonic style shoulder to shoulder assaults to a more realistic spread out approach insisted upon by war weary veterans who understood that close quarters made for easy targets. Catton details the change from standard upright warfare to an entrenched style developed by the undermanned and outgunned Confederates. Catton describes the situation brilliantly by relaying the old saying that if the Confederates had half a day they could build works so well that they could never be pushed out. Bruce Catton's brilliant work, *A Stillness at Appomattox*, the third published in a trilogy about the Army of the Potomac won a Pulitzer Prize and was published in 1953 and became an instant authority and reference for the casual reader to the serious researcher. He used first hand accounts and secondary sources to weave his tale of an army's struggle to overcome politics, cronyism and an entrenched sense and attitude of failure in marching against the great General Robert E. Lee and the storied Army of Northern Virginia. Catton paints a wonderful picture of the stubborn Grant bullishly forcing his will upon the southern forces with the ultimate outcome of bloodying the enemy so badly that they could not possibly rise again to fight another day. Bruce Catton (1899-1978) won a Pulitzer Prize in 1954 for *A Stillness at Appomattox* and awarded the Medal of Freedom in 1977

by President Gerald Ford, "Ford noted that the historian "made us hear the sounds of battle and cherish peace"

This is a very engaging, thorough description of a small slice of the Civil War, especially Fredericksburg and Antietam. It is told from the Union perspective, which is fine with me, but it really doesn't tell much about what was going on on the other side. Also, Catton makes his personal opinions obvious, which is ok, but sometimes gets a little annoying. If you have already read more recent works on the subject, Catton's approach can seem dated and lacking breadth. He clearly chose not to get too involved with the political background or the situation of African Americans, but sometimes discussion of these issues is too conspicuously absent. Overall, this is one of those books that is perfect for military history buffs who aren't terribly concerned with sociological analysis. You can read this book and never question the idea that "both sides were brave, the war wasn't really about ideology, and we shouldn't judge either side's motives." That approach is too dated for me, and not sufficiently critical of the social system that underpinned the entire conflict. Without that, I can't give five stars to this otherwise excellent book.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Army of the Potomac: Mr. Lincoln's Army, Glory Road, Stillness of Appomattox. Three Volumes
The Army of the Potomac: Mr. Lincoln's Army / Glory Road / A Stillness at Appomattox The Army of
The Potomac 3 volume set Glory Road; A Stillness At Appomattox and Mr. Lincoln's Army The
Army of the Potomac: Mr. Lincoln's Army; Glory Road; A Stillness at Appomattox, 3-Vol. Set Bruce
Catton's Civil War (Mr. Lincoln's Army/Glory Road/A Stillness at Appomattox) A Stillness at
Appomattox (Army of the Potomac, Vol. 3) A Stillness at Appomattox: The Army of the Potomac
Trilogy A Stillness at Appomattox: The Army of the Potomac, Volume 3 A Stillness at Appomattox
(Army of the Potomac) Mr. Lincoln's Army (Army of the Potomac Trilogy Book 1) The Army of the
Potomac: Glory Road Lincoln's Lieutenants: The High Command of the Army of the Potomac The
Sword of Lincoln: The Army of the Potomac A Stillness at Appomattox with a new foreword by David
Herbert Donald and illustrations specifically for this edition. The Passing of the Armies: An Account
of the Final Campaign of the Army of the Potomac, Based upon Personal Reminiscences of the
Fifth Army Corps The Civil War Volume III: Red River to Appomattox: Red River to Appomattox v. 3
Appomattox Court House: Appomattox Court House National Historical Park, Virginia (National Park
Service Handbook) The Man Behind The Guns: A Military Biography Of General Henry J. Hunt,
Commander Of Artillery, Army Of The Potomac Berdan's United States sharpshooters in the Army
of the Potomac, 1861-1865 Army of the Potomac (Men-at-Arms)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)