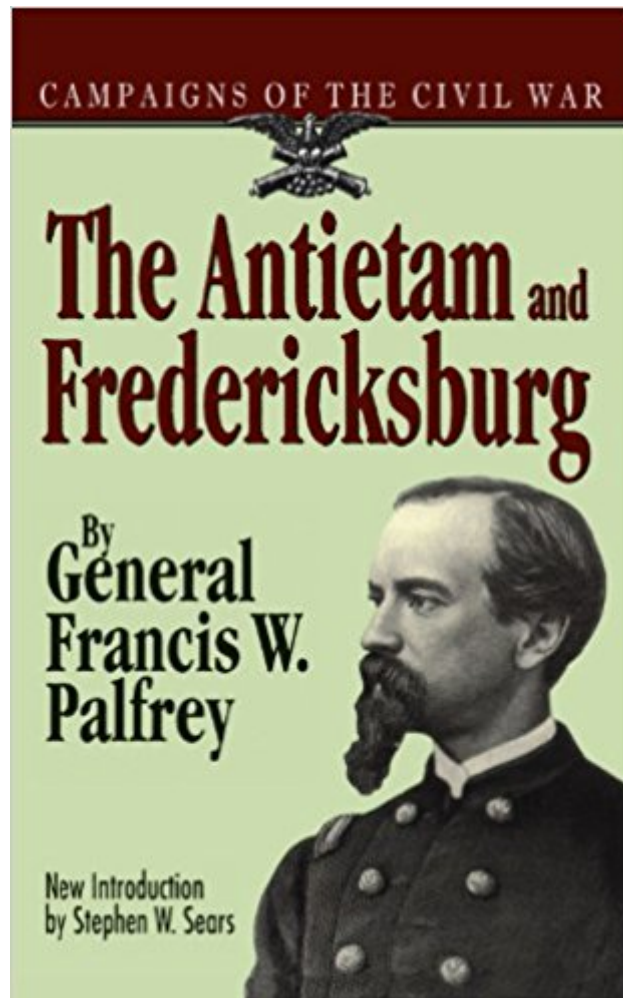




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The Antietam And Fredericksburg (Campaigns Of The Civil War S)



Synopsis

On September 17, 1862, the single bloodiest day of the Civil War, the Army of the Potomac under George B. McClellan clashed with Lee's invading Army of Northern Virginia at Antietam Creek. General Francis W. Palfrey (1831-1889), then lieutenant colonel of the 20th Massachusetts and later a founding member of the Military Historical Society of Massachusetts, was severely wounded in the savage struggle that forced the Confederates to retreat across the Potomac. The Union victory, though costly and indecisive, was sufficient for Lincoln to issue the Emancipation Proclamation. Less than three months later, the Battle of Fredericksburg (where droves of Union soldiers were slaughtered) ended the year with a resounding, grisly defeat. The Antietam and Fredericksburg (1862), is invaluable for Palfrey's unique eyewitness perspective; his unsparing, provocative appraisals of Generals McClellan, Burnside, Hooker, and others; his careful, detailed description of the Antietam terrain (vastly altered over time); and his incisive analyses of the folly and fighting that determined two of the most pivotal, murderous battles of the Civil War.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

On September 17, 1862, the single bloodiest day of the Civil War, the Army of the Potomac under George B. McClellan clashed with Lee's invading Army of Northern Virginia at Antietam Creek. General Francis W. Palfrey (1831-1889), then lieutenant colonel of the 20th Massachusetts and later a founding member of the Military Historical Society of Massachusetts, was severely wounded

in the savage struggle that forced the Confederates to retreat across the Potomac. The Union victory, though costly and indecisive, was enough for Lincoln to issue the Emancipation Proclamation. But less than three months later, the Battle of Fredericksburg (where droves of Union soldiers were slaughtered in Ambrose Burnside's vain, reckless attempt to storm the impregnable Confederate positions on Marye's Heights) ended the year with a resounding, grisly defeat. The Antietam and Fredericksburg (1882), part of the landmark Campaigns of the Civil War series, is invaluable for Palfrey's unique eyewitness perspective; his unsparing, provocative appraisals of Generals McClellan, Burnside, Hooker, and others; his careful, detailed description of the Antietam terrain (vastly altered over time); and his incisive analyses of the folly and fighting that determined two of the most pivotal, murderous battles of the Civil War.

I picked up a copy of this book because General Palfrey is a brother of the Psi Upsilon fraternity, and an honored military leader. The book provided a great timeless perspective on multiple campaigns and was a page-turner especially considering the genre. I would fully recommend this book!

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