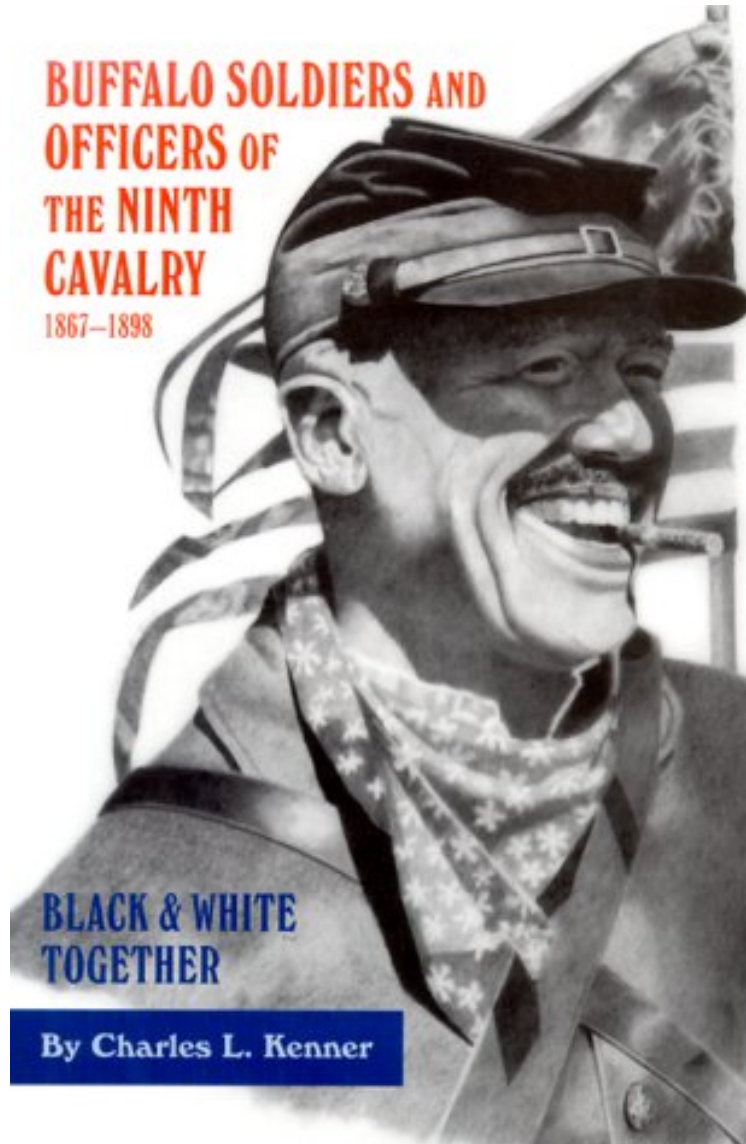


Buffalo Soldiers and Officers of the Ninth Cavalry, 1867-1898: Black White Together

Charles L. Kenner

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Charles L. Kenner : Buffalo Soldiers and Officers of the Ninth Cavalry, 1867-1898: Black White Together before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Buffalo Soldiers and Officers of the Ninth Cavalry, 1867-1898: Black White Together:

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Journal of America's ...By Mary G. RamstetterThis book got an excellent review by Roger Cunningham in The Journal of America's Military Past. (Post Library, Winter 2015) My husband purchased the book as a result of having seen a reenactment of Buffalo Soldiers at a Brewster Higley Reunion in Kansas. Although we are somewhat familiar with the countryside where the soldiers in this book were stationed, to experience it through their accounts took us on quite an adventure. The book is beautifully written. Mr. Kenner has a good story to tell, and he tells it very well.12 of 13 people found the following review helpful. A superb narrativeBy Zuwena PackerKenner's book is an excellent narrative which chronicles the actual experiences of the buffalo soldiers and the white officers who served with them. The book is a pleasure to read because it goes beyond the dates and battles, opting instead to recreate their foibles and shortcomings as well as their valor and heroism. It takes a true historian to give the rest of us glimpses into such humanity.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Classic Study of Blacks and Whites in the Frontier ArmyBy A. A. NofiA Summary of the review on StrategyPage.Com:'The first paperback edition of the classic study first published some fifteen years ago. In this work Prof. Kenner broke new ground in the study the Frontier Army's black cavalrymen by weaving together an account of their activities on the plains during the last of the Indian wars with a look at the relationships between the officers and the men who served in the 9th Cavalry. There are many battles, both physical and moral, with Native Americans of course, but also with bigots and racists, civilians, soldiers, politicians, and journalists. There are a lot of heroes, black and white, and some cowards as well in both groups. Kenner also usefully compares some of the experiences of the black troopers with those of their white comrades, demonstrating that poor treatment of troops, white or black, was rather a commonplace in the Old Army; complaints by black troops of receiving inferior mounts or rations were echoed by white troops throughout the period. This is an excellent work on the Frontier Army, giving us a look at many officers who had gained fame in the Civil War or would go on to do so in the Spanish-American and Philippine Wars.'For the full review, see StrategyPage.Com

The inclusion of the Ninth Cavalry and three other African American regiments in the post-Civil War army was one of the nation's most problematic social experiments. The first fifteen years following its organization in 1866 were stained by mutinies, slanderous verbal assaults, and sadistic abuses by their officers. Eventually, a number of considerate and dedicated officers and noncommissioned officers created an elite and well-disciplined fighting unit that won the respect of all but the most racist whites.Charles L. Kenner's detailed biographies of officers and enlisted men describe the passions, aspirations, and conflicts that both bound blacks and white together and pulled them apart. Special attention is given to the ordeals of three black officers assigned to the Ninth: Lieutenants John Alexander and Charles Young and Chaplain Henry Plummer. The subjects of these biographies—blacks and whites alike—represent every facet of human nature. The best learned that progress could only be achieved through trust and cooperation.

“Masterful. . . . A finely-tuned narrative that addresses the issue head-on. . . . A study long overdue.”—Western Historical Quarterly