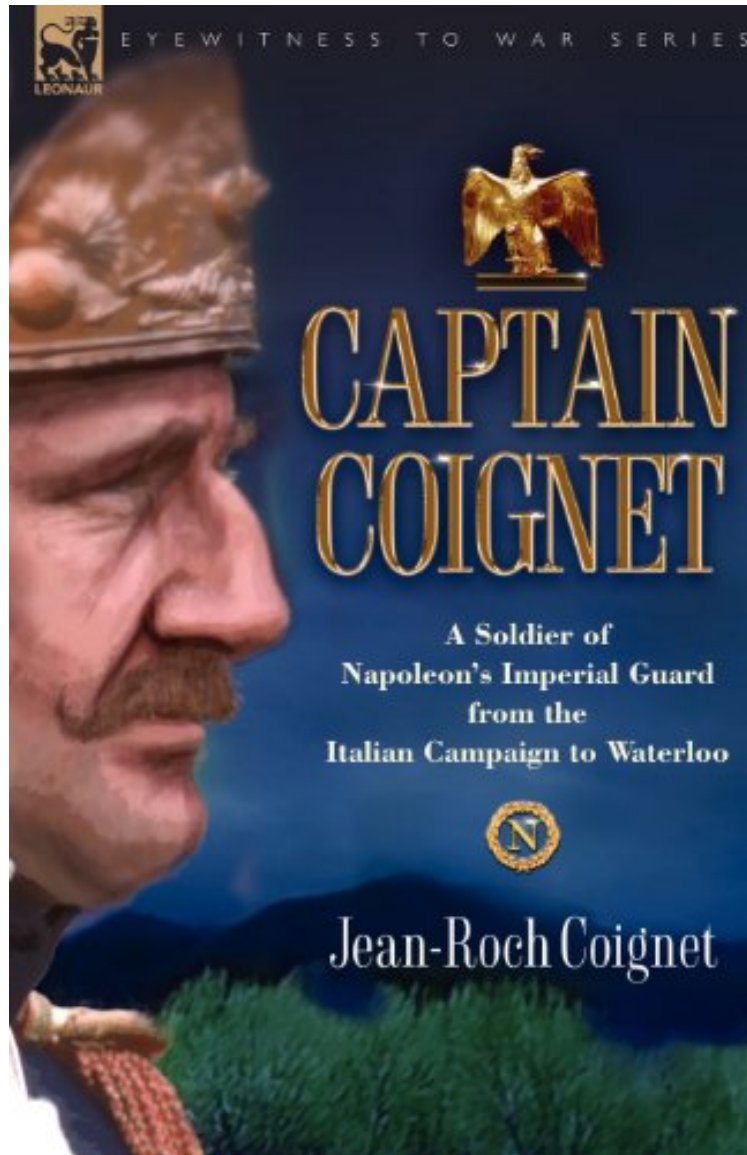


Captain Coignet - A Soldier of Napoleon's Imperial Guard from the Italian Campaign to Waterloo

Jean-Roch Coignet

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Jean-Roch Coignet : Captain Coignet - A Soldier of Napoleon's Imperial Guard from the Italian Campaign to Waterloo before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Captain Coignet - A Soldier of Napoleon's Imperial Guard from the Italian Campaign to Waterloo:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Some Historical Value, But a Difficult ReadBy Mike SorohanWhile

this book has some historical value--Mssr. Coignet had unusually frequent access to Napoleon as first an enlisted man, then as an officer--this is a difficult read. Coignet was illiterate well into adulthood and the book is written in a coarse style. The book is also written from a soldier's view, so Coignet's accounts of major battles such as Jena, Friedland, Austerlitz and Waterloo reflect what he saw in front of him and does not go into strategy or the grand scale of war. Coignet writes with a certain charm, but getting through the book could come with difficulty.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Stranger than fictionBy Philip HineAs a personal story this book sets out a phenomenal and fascinating life. M. Coignet had enough adventures to last several lifetimes and considering what he experienced, he was an amazingly lucky man. If this was work of fiction it would no doubt have spread over several volumes, but it is somewhat regrettably compressed into one.This is no work of literature but author does not pretend to be a gifted writer, so the stream of consciousness style could be a put-off to some, but it is worth persevering for opening a window into another age that most of us could not understand.The author is very much a man of his time. He was unquestionably loyal to Napoleon and went about his job as a soldier without remorse or introspection. He was loyal, dutiful and respectful, but ultimately it is people like this that allow tyrants to flourish.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great memoir of a Napoleonic soldierBy Robert W. McNamaraOutstanding memoir of a thoughtful, brave and somewhat comical soldier and officer of Napoleon's Imperial Guard. Though written when he was in his later years, the details of his early life and introduction into the military are quite thorough. The actual military exploits of the author are exemplary and full of action and insight, including personal memories and interactions with the French Emperor. A definite must-read for anyone interested in the Napoleonic Era.

CAPTAIN COIGNET. A 'grouser' tells his thrilling story of life in the Imperial Guard Jean-Roche Coignet's story embraces much that typifies the revolutionary French and Napoleonic eras. Coignet recounts his life from abused childhood to peasant worker, then to enlistment in the army-where an exploit of remarkable heroism, early in his military career, earns him recognition and sets him on a path of advancement through the ranks of Napoleon's Imperial Guard Grenadiers where he finally earns the rank of captain. Through his words we experience many of the campaigns and battles of the Napoleonic Wars-culminating in Waterloo. Coignet's close contact with his Emperor offers many insights into the great man, his court and his generals.