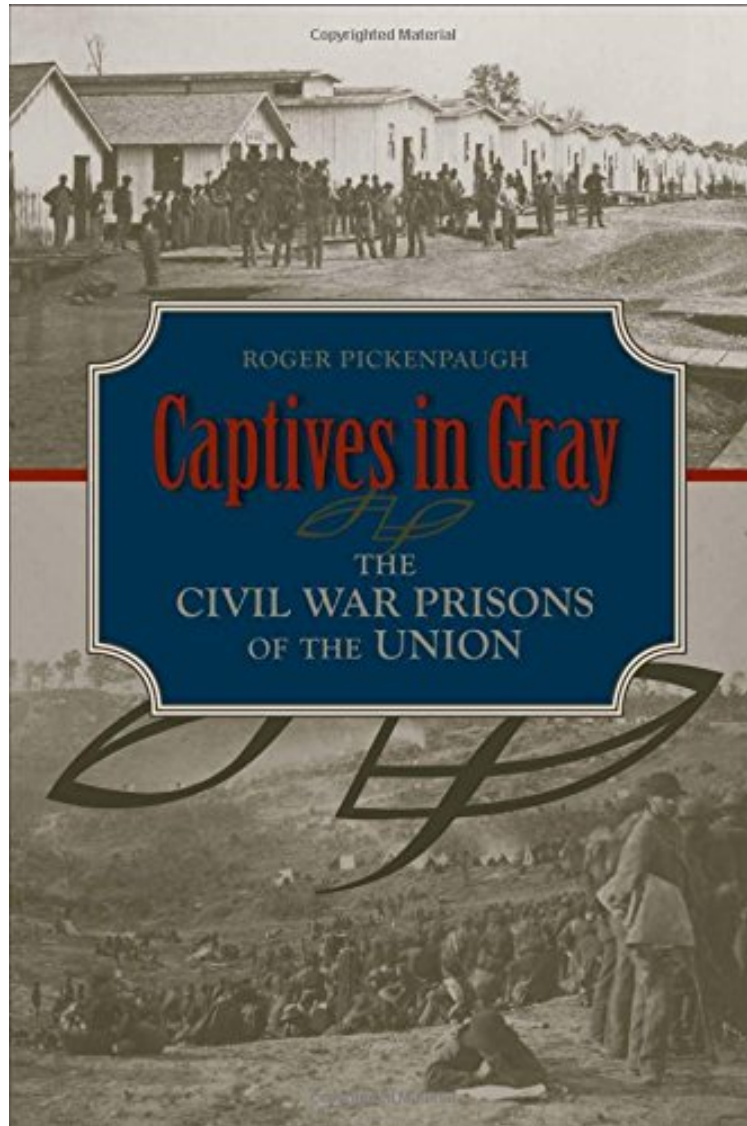


(Free pdf) Captives in Gray: The Civil War Prisons of the Union

## Captives in Gray: The Civil War Prisons of the Union

*Roger Pickenpaugh*

*\*Download PDF / ePub / DOC / audiobook / ebooks*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#1352006 in Books University Alabama Press 2009-05-24 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.25 x 1.20 x 6.131, 1.49 #File Name: 0817316523400 pages | File size: 63.Mb

**Roger Pickenpaugh : Captives in Gray: The Civil War Prisons of the Union** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Captives in Gray: The Civil War Prisons of the Union:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Harold StanleyThe book holds a great deal of information on a subject about which too little has been written.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four StarsBy GoodbearDetailed and interesting.

Perhaps no topic is more heated, and the sources more tendentious, than that of Civil War prisons and the treatment of prisoners of war (POWs). Partisans of each side, then and now, have vilified the other for maltreatment of their POWs, while seeking to excuse their own distressing record of prisoner of war camp mismanagement, brutality, and incompetence. It is only recently that historians have turned their attention to this contentious topic in an attempt to sort the wheat of truth from the chaff of partisan rancor. Roger Pickenpaugh has previously studied a Union prison camp in careful detail (Camp Chase) and now turns his attention to the Union record in its entirety, to investigate variations between camps and overall prison policy and to determine as nearly as possible what actually happened in the admittedly over-crowded, under-supplied, and poorly-administered camps. He also attempts to determine what conditions resulted from conscious government policy or were the product of local officials and situations. A companion to Pickenpaugh's *Captives in Blue*.

"Use this book along with James M. Gillispie's *Andersonvilles of the North* (CH, Aug'09, 46-6993) for balanced analysis of Confederate prisoners of war in federal hands during the Civil War. That war produced a seminal guide for proper treatment of POWs in the form of US Army General Orders No. 100 (24 April 1863), called the "Lieber Code." Bickering about application of these rules has obscured historical understanding of POW life in Union hands. Pickenpaugh shows that both sides lacked suitable personnel, food, and shelter for large catches of POWs produced by battles of unforeseen magnitude. Breakdown of parole and exchange of captives meant that thousands were held for months and years. Union commissary general of prisoners Colonel William Hoffman was an effective administrator known for humane interest in POW welfare limited by his tight control of funds. Camps formed little communities struggling against boredom with handicrafts, hobbies, sports, gambling, escape attempts, canteens, music, and sometimes hard liquor. Hospitals of mixed effectiveness were unable to reduce a 12 percent mortality rate caused in part by unsanitary conditions in camps. Diaries of lesser-rank soldiers reflect common life in POW camps. *Summing Up: Recommended. All levels/libraries.*" —CHOICE "Roger Pickenpaugh has provided us with a reliable work and I highly recommend *Captives in Gray* to any student of the Civil War, whether professional or lay person. This is a well-written, deeply moving story and I believe will become the standard for the subject."--Blue Gray Magazine