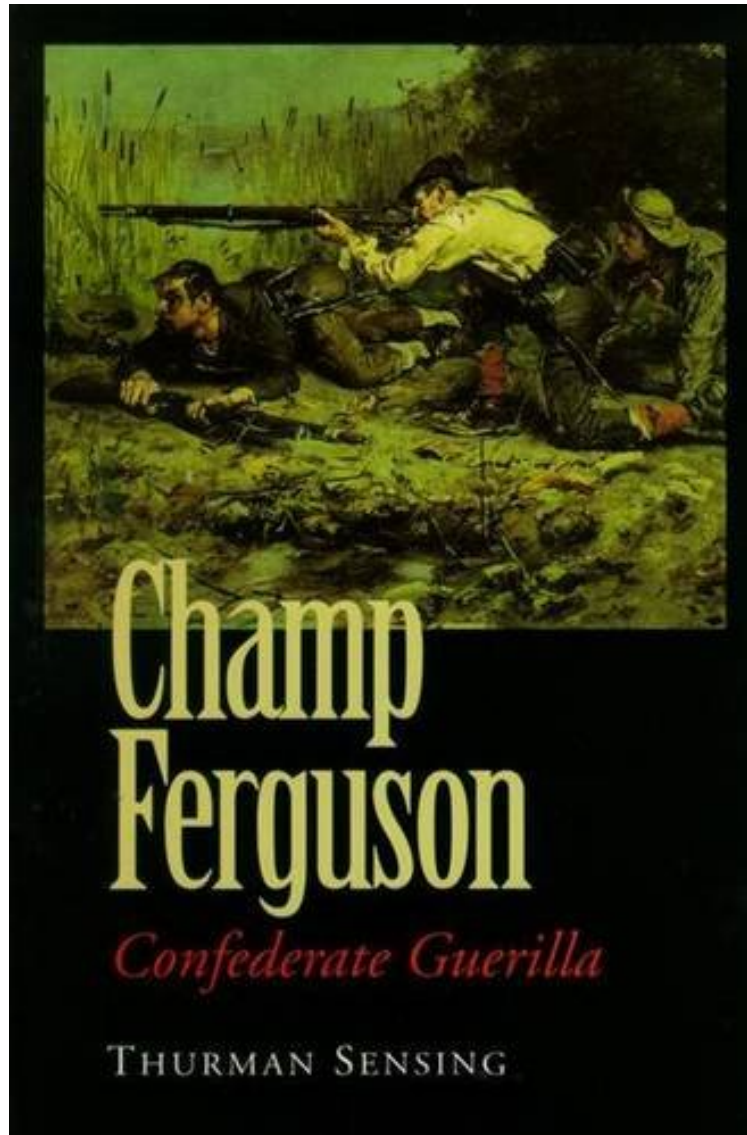


(Download pdf ebook) Champ Ferguson: Confederate Guerilla

## Champ Ferguson: Confederate Guerilla

*Thurman Sensing*

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#2345181 in Books Vanderbilt University Press 1994Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.02 x .61 x 5.981, .90 #File Name: 0826512534300 pages | File size: 49.Mb

**Thurman Sensing : Champ Ferguson: Confederate Guerilla** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Champ Ferguson: Confederate Guerilla:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. The Best of Biographies on Champ FergusonBy RonAlthough written in 1942, I believe this to be the best of the biographies on this notorious character of the Civil War. It is clearly written, and uses much of the actual witness testimony given at the 1865 trial of Champ Ferguson in Nashville. Living within the area of Tennessee where many of these atrocities occurred, it is still a divisive topic among those

descendants that chose different sides to support during the war. All of the biographies describe the killings, but the Sensing book brings home the horrifying details in the use of actual witness testimony and Champ's own thoughts about many of the killings in his subsequent interviews with newspaper reporters after the trial and before his execution. On a personal level, I do not know how anyone can come away from reading this with the sense that Champ was doing the killings for God, Country, or the Confederacy. He was a cold blooded, calculating killer, that killed unarmed men for the most part, many sick in bed or lay wounded on the battlefield or in the hospital. He gave no quarter during the war nor asked for any by all accounts. A good read, and puts the reader in the position to make up their own mind about his war time activities. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Cahmp FergusonBy LeaGreat book based on historical facts. Seems one of my g-g-grandfathers rode with him during the Civil War. True historical fact, have lots of documentation about this so, of course, I enjoyed the book greatly. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Hero or villain?By V. ProtopapasChamp Ferguson was one of those characters in the Civil War whose evaluation seems to depend upon which side is doing the 'evaluating'. Ferguson was hanged for murders he committed during the war in which he fought as a 'guerrilla' (Yankee definition) or 'partisan' (Confederate definition). The problem with most guerrilla/partisan fighters in Ferguson's theater of the war and also in the border states of Kansas and Missouri, was that private feuds often intruded into military actions. Hence, Ferguson's 'murder' of a wounded Union soldier is traced in several instances to attacks upon his family. But whatever the case, when the time came to hang the tall man, even some Yankees seemed to feel that Ferguson was being hanged for actions that were being 'overlooked' in other theaters of war, especially in northern Virginia where several partisan groups had been VERY active. Commanders such as John S. Mosby and Hanse McNeill had participated in the hanging of Yankee soldiers involved in the destruction of civilian homes in the Shenandoah and elsewhere. While McNeill died during the war, his son (who took over the command) as well as Mosby were not prosecuted afterwards although in Mosby's case, there was some evidence of a desire to have him tried after Ferguson's execution. The author gives a fairly balanced view of Ferguson's life. Unlike Mosby and other more educated commanders and/or the men who served under them, Ferguson left very little personal record of his thoughts and motives which means that those studying the man can only go by his actions and the evaluation of his contemporaries on both sides. Champ Ferguson, like Quantrill, the James boys and other 'bloodthirsty guerillas' of the era, is a worthy study for anyone who wishes to understand the tenor of the times in that fratricidal era.

This amazing story of bloody guerilla warfare along the Kentucky-Tennessee border presents a tale and a protagonist unique in the annals of the Civil War. When the Civil War began in 1861, the men of the Cumberland Mountain districts chose sides and pursued a private war with each other. The most infamous of their number was Champ Ferguson. In this classic study, Thurman Sensing provides the only available book-length account of Ferguson's brutal deeds, his capture, his trial, his execution at the end of the war, and the legendary ruse by which he allegedly escaped hanging. Long regarded as a collector's item by Civil War buffs, the reappearance of this book in a paperback edition will be welcomed by many.

From Library JournalHere is yet another volume covering one of the more obscure dimensions of the Civil War. Ferguson was involved in skirmishes in Tennessee and Kentucky that Sensing claims were essentially vendettas having little to do with the issues of the war. This 1942 title makes an interesting addition to large Civil War collections. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. Although Ferguson survived the Civil War unscathed and offered to surrender to Federal authorities, Ferguson's crimes had assumed so awful a stature that the Military Division of Tennessee brushed aside his offer, arrested him, tried him, and hung him on October 20, 1865. But the trial of Ferguson is important for Sensing in another way, for the trial becomes a lens through which we peer at the bitter, remorseless nature of guerilla warfare.--Civil War Book ExchangeFrom the Back CoverWhen the Civil War began in 1861, the men of the Cumberland Mountain districts of Tennessee and Kentucky chose sides and pursued a private war with each other. Often motivated by vengeance and vendetta, their armed bands had only irregular connections with either the Union or Confederate armies. Their fighting was deadly, with little regard for rules of engagement and with little quarter given. The most infamous of their number was Champ Ferguson, whose guerilla exploits were interspersed with periods of service as a scout for Morgan's Men and as a member of Joe Wheeler's cavalry. By the end of the Civil War, Ferguson was accused of personally killing fifty-three people, including children, the elderly and wounded soldiers in their hospital beds. In this classic study, first published in 1942, Thurman Sensing provides the only available book-length account of Champ Ferguson's brutal deeds, his capture, his trial and his execution (or according to one version, the ruse by which he escaped hanging) at the end of the war. Though there is little that is admirable in Champ Ferguson's story, this fascinating account of his life, long regarded as a collector's item by Civil War buffs, adds a unique dimension to our understanding of the horrors of America's Civil War.