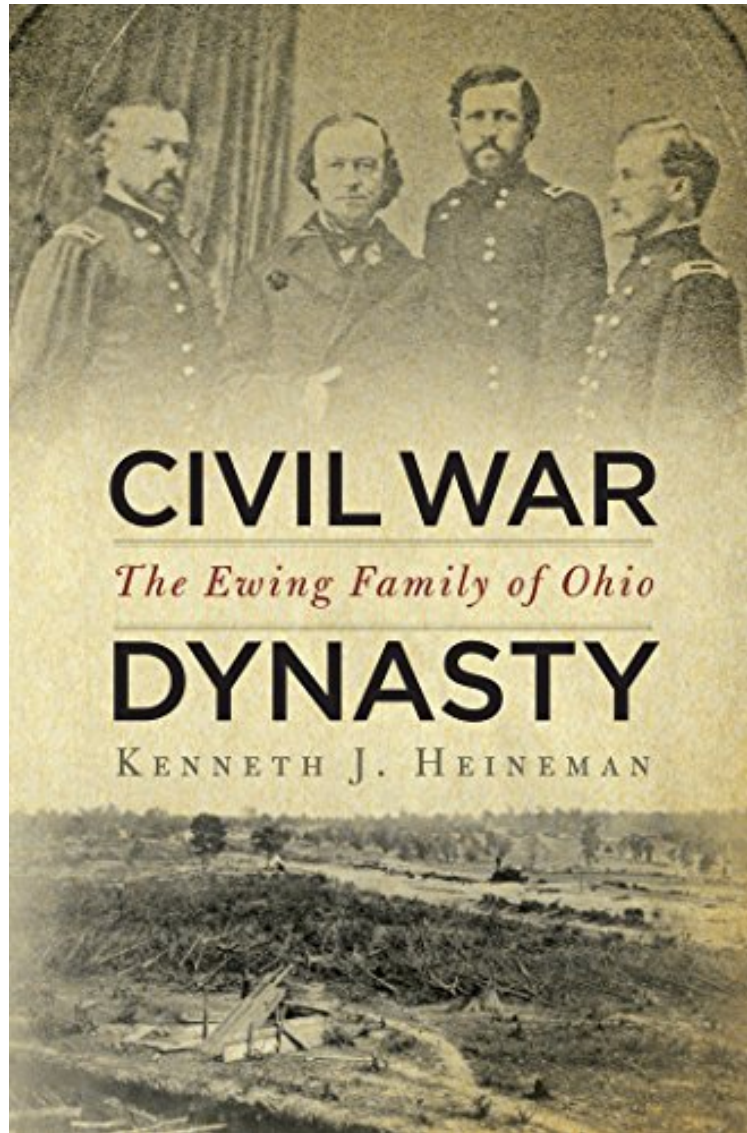


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## Civil War Dynasty: The Ewing Family of Ohio

*Kenneth J. Heineman*

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#1187667 in Books NYU Press 2012-12-24 2012-12-24 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.02 x 1.00 x 5.98l, 1.46 #File Name: 081477301X395 pages | File size: 71.Mb

**Kenneth J. Heineman : Civil War Dynasty: The Ewing Family of Ohio** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Civil War Dynasty: The Ewing Family of Ohio:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Rethinking the Civil War...By James T. Kennedy MDCivil War Dynasty: The Ewing Family of Ohio is Kenneth J. Heineman's exploration of a familiar tale, the Civil War, from an unusual perspective. Focused on an extended family of important men and women who, while forgotten by history, were front and center during all the political and military events of our nation's searing conflict. Three Ewing brothers

became Union generals during the war, but the author goes way beyond this Civil War trivia, and uses the family's story to expand the reader's historical understanding of these years with a 'You Are There' reality based view that leaves neither the "Father Abraham Savior" nor the "Lost Cause" versions reinforced. By stepping back from the usual characters to focus on this one family living through this important piece of history all inevitability is eliminated. The complexity of the times comes forward in these lives and a thoughtful consideration replaces the conventional story usually woven from a battle-to-battle accounting. No singular biography of Lincoln, Davis, Grant, Lee, Sheridan, or Seward can match this encompassing version of politics, religion, battle, honor, intrigue, and betrayal. Indeed, Civil War Dynasty reads like a multi-generational novel about an engaging family--except all of this saga is true.<sup>3 of 3</sup> people found the following review helpful. The Kennedys of the Nineteenth Century By C. Logan During the most tumultuous period in American history, the Ewing family (along with Brother-in-law William Tecumseh Sherman) spilled on to the national stage from the tiny town of Lancaster, Ohio. In politics and law, both at the state and national level, they provided progressive leadership, uniting the Ohio Whigs with moderate abolitionists to become the Republican party of Lincoln. Then, as the country spiraled into Civil War, they took up arms to defend the Union; serving with bravery and distinction at South Mountain, Shiloh, the Kansas Border wars, Antietam, Vicksburg, Chattanooga- Chickamauga, the Battle for Atlanta and the March to the Sea. By the end of the war, four Ewing brothers had reached the rank of General, three of whom served under General "Cump" Sherman. History abounds. Even their grammar school sidekick from neighboring Somerset, Ohio, was the Union's most capable cavalry commander, General Phillip Sheridan.<sup>3 of 3</sup> people found the following review helpful. Important Family - If they ever make miniseries again, this family history should be considered for it. By Walt Ok, I wrote one of the first biographies on General Thomas Ewing and research him on a regular basis. So-o-o-o, I can easily get nit-picky and argumentative when discussing nuances in what effected the ebbs and flows in his life. I won't do that here. In general, I found it a good history and since the points I might argue others might consider trivial, I would definitely recommend it for reading. If you are wondering over what I could be nit-picky or pedantic, it would be how Order No. 11 and George Caleb Bingham affected Tom's political career. I also noted that the author used a figure of around 10,000 people being removed under Order No. 11. Except for one obscure reference and Tom's own statement of 300 to 400 families, research I did suggested that number. The sources given in his book to my knowledge generally use a number of around 20,000 or more. So I would like to have seen more footnotes in the book, so I could dig further.

For years the Ewing family of Ohio has been lost in the historical shadow cast by their in-law, General William T. Sherman. In the era of the Civil War, it was the Ewing family who raised Sherman, got him into West Point, and provided him with the financial resources and political connections to succeed in war. The patriarch, Thomas Ewing, counseled presidents and clashed with radical abolitionists and southern secessionists leading to the Civil War. Three Ewing sons became Union generals, served with distinction at Antietam and Vicksburg, marched through Georgia, and fought guerrillas in Missouri. The Ewing family stood at the center of the Northern debate over emancipation, fought for the soul of the Republican Party, and waged total war against the South.

"Kenneth Heineman's Civil War Dynasty is an American family story as big as Bonanza and as tangled as Dynasty. The cast includes some of the nation's major political and military figures of the mid-nineteenth century, and the family dramas unfold from Ohio, to the nation's capital, to Sherman's March to the Sea, and beyond. With a sure hand Heineman leads the reader through the thicket of intrigues and interests that led to civil war, hard fighting, emancipation, racial politics, and more. In doing so, he recovers the large role the Ewings played in making America and reveals the ways personality, partisanship, and principles interacted in saving it. A life-and-times history worthy of the genre."-Randall M. Miller, Saint Joseph's University "Kenneth J. Heineman, a biographer of the Ewing family, believes Tom [Ewing] wanted to re-create in Kansas his father's rise to wealth and power a generation earlier on the Ohio frontier."-Nicole Etcheson, The New York Times: Opinionator "In Civil War Dynasty, Heineman examines the involvement and impact of this prominent family during the turbulent era of America's nineteenth-century geographic and socioeconomic expansion. Employing a refined combination of expository skill and analytic precision, Heineman deftly examines the confluence of forces that produced the American Civil War."-Dr. Fred Johnson III, Civil War Book "Heineman's fast-paced narrative brings to life a now-neglected American family as they come into their own against the complex backdrop of a nation struggling to overcome political and social differences."-Publishers Weekly "The book helps fill what has been significant gap in central Ohio history"-The Columbus Dispatch "Scholars of Civil War-era slavery and politics will appreciate Heineman's adept treatment of the Ewing's complex racial views and the context within which they forged them, as will scholars of the emancipation, Reconstruction, and Civil War memory."-Civil War History "Well researched...Civil War Dynasty does a good job of providing contextual information without losing the story. Heineman succeeds in pulling this prominent Ohio family from the historical shadows. This work joins a growing body of literature that focuses on the war from a Northern perspective and is an enjoyable read for both the casual and academic reader."-Jeremy Taylor, Journal of Military History "Extensively researched and gracefully written, Civil War Dynasty is a model history of the United States as seen through the eyes

of one very important and broadly connected family. This is a story that has long needed telling, and it is how history should be written."