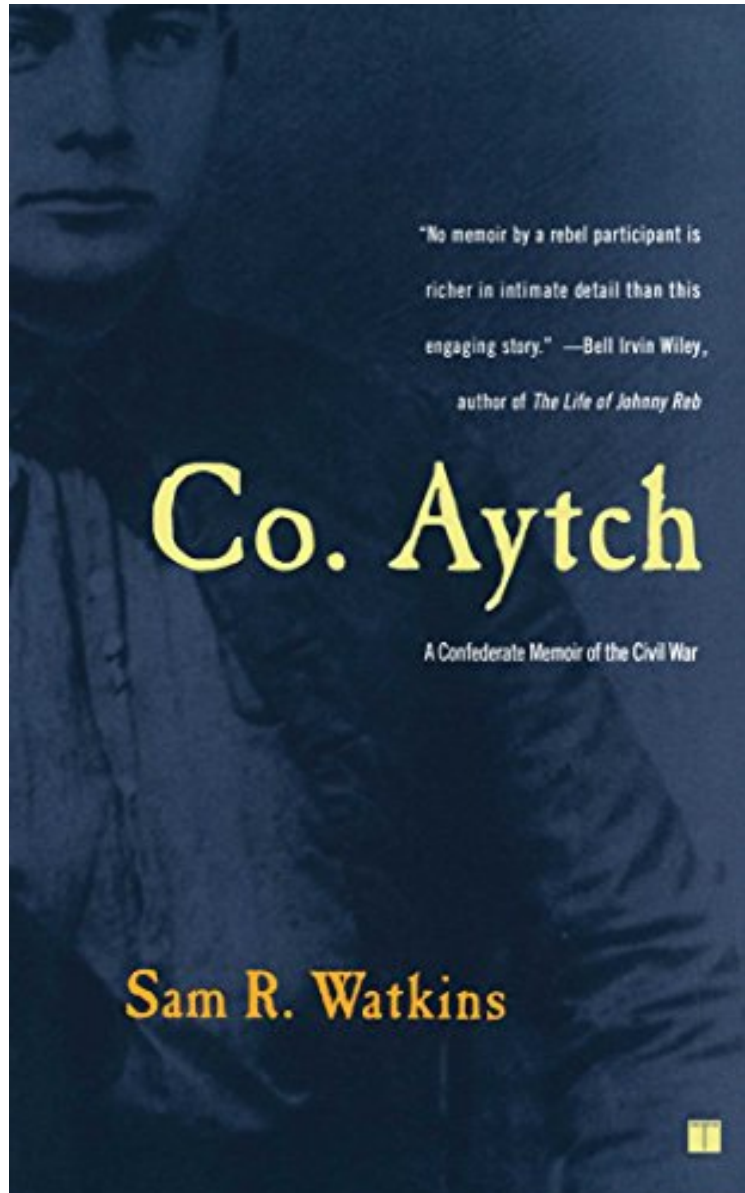


[Download] Co. Aytch: A Confederate Memoir of the Civil War

Co. Aytch: A Confederate Memoir of the Civil War

Sam R. Watkins

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#428415 in Books Sam R Watkins 2003-11-01 2003-11-01Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.44 x .60 x 5.50l, .53 #File Name: 0743255410256 pagesCo Aytch A Confederate Memoir of the Civil War | File size: 50.Mb

Sam R. Watkins : Co. Aytch: A Confederate Memoir of the Civil War before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Co. Aytch: A Confederate Memoir of the Civil War:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Unforgettable tale of the common soldierBy T Heel WalkerI have

read many books on the Civil War and its era. It is a fundamentally fascinating saga. Sam Watkins, protagonist of *Company Aytch*, is a character that stands out in my memory. As a Confederate infantryman in the often-overlooked Western theater of the war, he tells of matters and beliefs you will rarely read about elsewhere, in a manner that is both humble and highly perceptive. His is the tale of everyman; how he and his contemporaries persevered in the face of carnage, terror, heartache, tedium, shortages, and hopelessness is difficult to imagine. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Type Too Small - But Good Book By beetdaddy This particular publication of this book is terrible. It is cheaply done. The type is smaller than a pocket bible. I don't wear glasses but I had to acquire some magnifying glasses just to keep track of the skinny, tightly packed sentences and tiny words. Order another version published by someone else. That said, the content of the book is phenomenal and a must-read for any history buff, particularly those interested in the Civil War. Watkins is a talented and entertaining writer. He captures the blood and gore of the Civil War, in which he participated, from his lowly fighting man's viewpoint. He wrote this book 20 years AFTER the war and continually buys himself grace from strict historical scrutiny by re-stating this. I cannot help but feel some degree of skepticism, however, in that he describes participating in a large number of very prominent battles and he recounts quite a collection of encounters with very famous leaders of the Confederacy. For a lowly private, he sure gets around. Whether it is all honest and not somewhat stretched in an effort to gain public interest and the serialized publication he sold, does not negate the poignant portrait he paints of this terribly brutal part of American history. The death counts of the Civil War battles make modern conflicts seem small in that regard. Get a better publication and read it. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Nice to read again after so many years. By Paul H. What a great insight into the life of a Confederate hero. I had read this book as a young teenager and was hoping that I would find another copy of it 35 years later. What a great surprise to find it in the "store" for just .99 cents.

A classic Civil War memoir, *Co. Aytch* is the work of a natural storyteller who balances the horror of war with an irrepressible sense of humor and a sharp eye for the lighter side of battle. It is a testament to one man's enduring humanity, courage, and wisdom in the midst of death and destruction. Early in May 1861, twenty-one-year-old Sam R. Watkins of Columbia, Tennessee, joined the First Tennessee Regiment, Company H, to fight for the Confederacy. Of the 120 original recruits in his company, Watkins was one of only seven to survive every one of its battles, from Shiloh to Nashville. Twenty years later, with a "house full of young 'rebels' clustering around my knees and bumping about my elbows," he wrote this remarkable account—a memoir of a humble soldier fighting in the American Civil War, replete with tales of the common foot soldiers, commanders, Yankee enemies, victories, defeats, and the South's ultimate surrender on April 26, 1865.

Bell Irvin Wiley Author of *The Life of Johnny Reb* No memoir by a rebel participant is richer in intimate detail than this engaging story. Margaret Mitchell From *Gone With the Wind* Letters A better book there never was. About the Author Samuel "Sam" Rush Watkins (June 26, 1839 - July 20, 1901) was a noted Confederate soldier during the American Civil War. He is known today for his memoir *Company Aytch: Or, a Side Show of the Big Show*, often heralded as one of the best primary sources about the common soldier's Civil War experience. Watkins was born on June 26, 1839 near Columbia, Maury County, Tennessee, and received his formal education at Jackson College in Columbia. He originally enlisted in the "Bigby Greys" of the 3rd Tennessee Infantry in Mount Pleasant, Tennessee, but transferred shortly thereafter to the First Tennessee Infantry, Company H (the "Maury Greys") in the spring of 1861. Watkins faithfully served throughout the duration of the War, participating in the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, Perryville, Murfreesboro (Stones River), Shelbyville, Chattanooga, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Resaca, Adairsville, Kennesaw Mountain (Cheatham Hill), New Hope Church, Zion Church, Kingston, Cassville, Atlanta, Jonesboro, Franklin, and Nashville. Of the 120 men who enlisted in "Company H" in 1861, Sam Watkins was one of only seven alive when General Joseph E. Johnston's Army of Tennessee surrendered to General William Tecumseh Sherman in North Carolina April, 1865. Of the 1,200 men who fought in the First Tennessee, only 65 were left to be paroled on that day. Soon after the war ended, Watkins began writing his memoir, entitled "*Company Aytch: Or, a Side Show of the Big Show*". It was originally serialized in the *Columbia, Tennessee Herald* newspaper. "*Co. Aytch*" was published in a first edition of 2,000 in book form in 1882. "*Co. Aytch*" is heralded by many historians as one of the best war memoirs written by a common soldier of the field. Sam's writing style is quite engaging and skillfully captures the pride, misery, glory, and horror experienced by the common foot soldier. Watkins is often featured and quoted in Ken Burns' 1990 documentary titled *The Civil War*. Watkins died on July 20, 1901 at the age of sixty-two in his home in the Ashwood Community. He was buried with full military honors by the members of the Leonidas Polk Bivouac, United Confederate Veterans, in the cemetery of the Zion Presbyterian Church near Mount Pleasant, Tennessee.