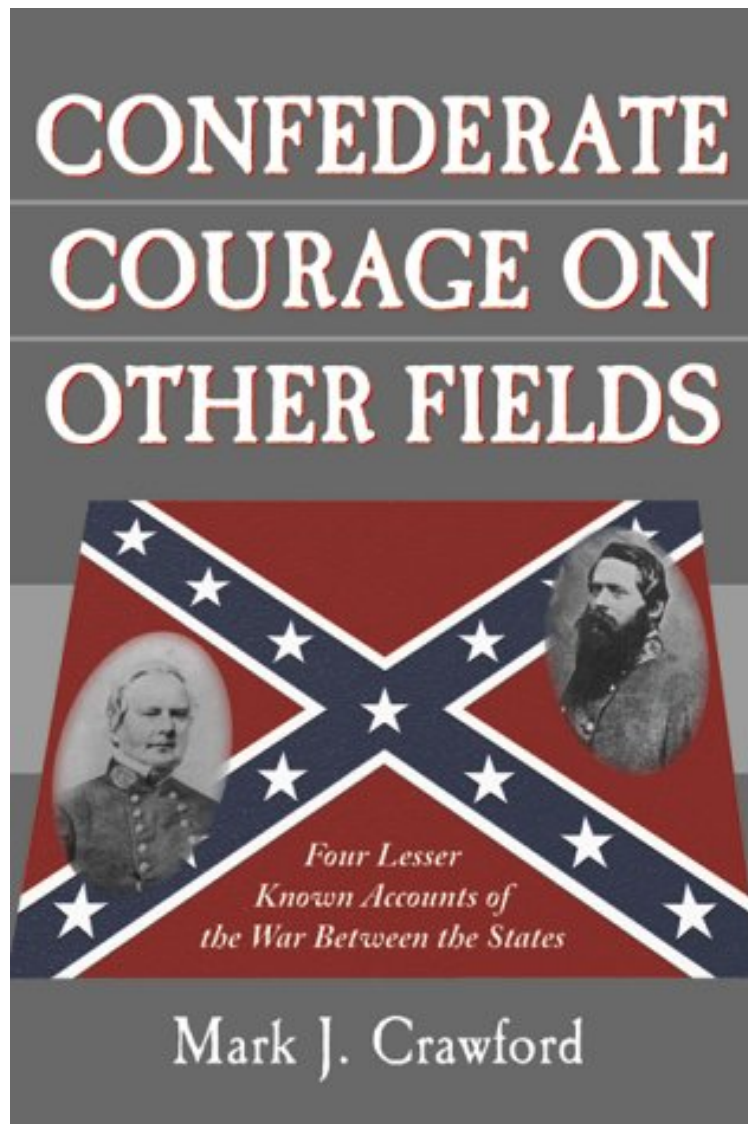


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Confederate Courage on Other Fields: Four Lesser Known Accounts of the War Between the States

Mark Crawford

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Mark Crawford : Confederate Courage on Other Fields: Four Lesser Known Accounts of the War Between the States before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Confederate Courage on Other Fields: Four Lesser Known Accounts of the War Between the States:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Uncommon Courage - Common ConfederatesBy Lou WehmerTo

borrow the words of Shakespeare, "Courage mounteth with occasion". Far from the grand movements of the armies, the great battles and the central figures of the Civil War, one finds thousands of examples of personal courage of men who met the occasion, but have been largely forgotten by history. Mark Crawford in "Confederate Courage on Other Fields" does great justice to four of these lesser-known stories of sacrifice, bravery in the face of great danger, suffering, and devotion to duty by men fighting for the Confederate cause. I found each tale to be well researched, insightful and easy to read. "Tisn't life that matters! `Tis the courage you bring to it" -Sir Hugh Walpole. I believe Colonel Charles Blacknall of the 23rd North Carolina Infantry, as described in Crawford's book, exemplifies the courageous leadership exhibited by many men of the south. A wealthy, educated planter, Blacknall hated drilling, the study of tactics and many of the trappings of the military. However, belief in a cause led him to great accomplishment, at a price of personal sacrifice, ultimately his own life. As you read his letters, and gain insight into his devotion to his family, and his love and understanding of his men, you will admire this fellow who gave all for what he believed in. My primary reason for buying this book was my lifelong interest of events in the bitter struggle for control of Southeast Missouri. Though considered a backwater of the War and often ignored by historians, the violence of partisan and guerilla actions in these border counties profoundly affected everyone living in the region. Instead of a five-hour skirmish or five-day battle, the fate of this area was sealed in five years of ugly, shocking bloodletting and destruction. Most folks fled. In many parts of Southeast Missouri and Northeast Arkansas the bitterness remains to this day. Crawford's treatment of the conflict between Major James Wilson on the Union side and Colonel Timothy Reeves on the Confederate side is the most fair, accurate and honest I have read. A consequence of this contest was the execution of prisoners on both sides. In reading this account you will come to appreciate the bravery and gallantry of men caught up in a struggle without rules and often driven by revenge that discouraged noble actions. You will finish this book with an expanded understanding of the "Brother's War", and the tremendous sacrifice of the average Confederate soldier as he faced danger in a courageous or fearless manner. I hope Mark will consider a sequel exploring the courage of Union men. I heartily recommend this book!

2 of 3 people found the following review helpful.
Confederate Courage on Other Fields
By R. Bond
This book delivers what it promises... 4 battles you surely would not have studied (unless you happened to be a "local" to one of the sites), separate from one another but tied together by the crimson thread of Courage. Great Stuff!
I highly recommend reading this book if you are a fan of Military History, a student of the "Civil War", or simply attracted to real acts of Heroism Courage from an era blessed with a level of integrity and grit that is only a faded memory to America today.

While many soldiers in the army of the Confederate States of America fought on famous fields like Gettysburg, others demonstrated equal valour in lesser known places. Here are four accounts, in soldiers' own words from letters and diaries.'

"forgotten skirmishes and casualties emerge in full view"--Civil War Book About the Author
Scholarly author, novelist and songwriter Mark J. Crawford lives in Madison, Wisconsin. After a career as an exploration geologist, his writings have specialized in Civil War history, the environment, and science.