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## Miscellaneous Disbanded Virginia Light Artillery (The Virginia Regimental Histories)

*Robert H. Moore II*

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before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Miscellaneous Disbanded Virginia Light Artillery (The Virginia Regimental Histories):

From the outset of the American Civil War, a number of artillery batteries had been organized that either were poorly equipped from the beginning or simply could not maintain their numbers, horses, and equipment due to a variety of reasons. By the late summer and early fall of 1862, the Army of Northern Virginia's desperate need for a formal reorganization of artillery was finally properly addressed. In a report by Gen. William N. Pendleton, dated October 2, 1862, the army's chief of artillery, then near Winchester, Virginia, presented the numerous problems in the service of the "long arm". In his overall evaluation of the batteries, the "reduced below the service standard" was the common reason for disbanding several of them. Pendleton's suggestion led to Army of Northern Virginia Special Orders Number 209, dated October 4, 1862. Within the orders were given the directions by which batteries were to be disbanded and consolidated. Though batteries from only a few Confederate states were involved, Virginia batteries were the most affected. Though most of the batteries had performed good service, or had at least one fleeting moment of service under fire, several batteries fell under the disbanding orders. Out of the number of Virginia batteries disbanded, this volume covers eleven of those batteries, including Smith's/Fraser's Washington/Hampton, Schaeffer's

Beauregard Rifles, Sands'/Ritter's henrico, Garrett's/Coke's Lee/Williamsburg, Cosnahan's/Jones' Peninsula, Alburdis'/J.S. Brown's "Wise", Fleet's Middlesex, Nelson's Hanover, T.J. Page, Jr.'s Magruder, Weisiger's Manchester, and Wimbish's/Clarke's Long Island Light Artillery.