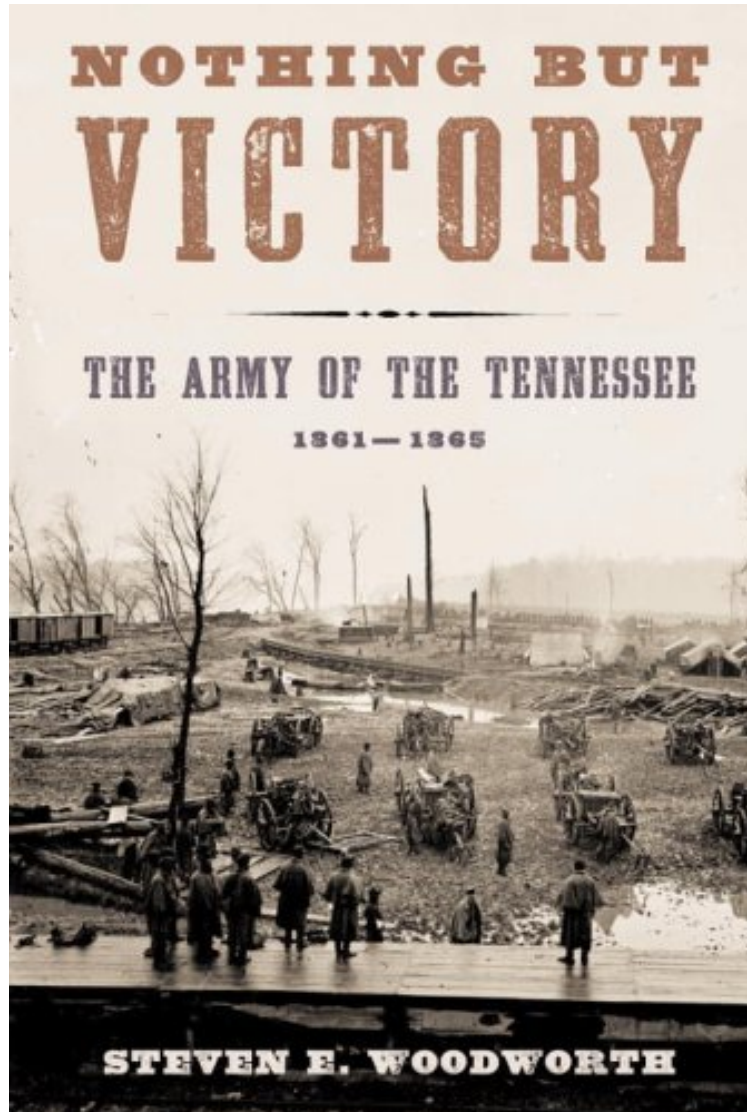


(Ebook free) Nothing but Victory: The Army of the Tennessee, 1861-1865

Nothing but Victory: The Army of the Tennessee, 1861-1865

Steven E. Woodworth

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Steven E. Woodworth : Nothing but Victory: The Army of the Tennessee, 1861-1865 before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Nothing but Victory: The Army of the Tennessee, 1861-1865:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Nothing But InsightBy bluewon51 Nothing But Victory is a good history of the Civil War in the West, the Atlanta Campaign, and Sherman's marches through Georgia and the Carolinas. This book is strongest up through the end of the Vicksburg campaign. The Army's progress from groups of naive civilians to veteran soldiers through their early experiences at Belmont, Forts Henry and Donelson, and the

terrible ordeal at Shiloh is detailed and well researched. There is a good description of Sherman's little known Meridian campaign that foreshadowed the March to the Sea. The passage on the Battle of Atlanta is a great narrative of the Army's eventually victorious reaction to its third great surprise during the war, the others being at Fort Donelson, and at Shiloh. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Book, inadequate maps By Bob Rothman The publishers hurt this excellently written book by not including maps. I had to search and download them from the web. That mentioned it is a first class well written history. I recommend you get a civil war atlas to accompany this book or download civil war maps if you plan to read it. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By John R. Peterson Fascinating history told through the eyes of participants interspersed with the author's insightful commentary.

In this first full consideration of the remarkable Union army that effectively won the Civil War, historian Steven Woodworth tells the engrossing story of its victory by drawing on letters, diaries, and newspaper accounts of the time. The Army of the Tennessee operated in the Mississippi River Valley through the first half of the Civil War, winning major victories at the Confederate strongholds of Fort Henry and Fort Donelson, Shiloh, and Vicksburg. The army was created at Cairo, Illinois, in the summer of 1861 and took shape under the firm hand of Ulysses S. Grant, who molded it into a hard-hitting, self-reliant fighting machine. Woodworth takes us to its winter 1863 encampment in the Louisiana swamps, where the soldiers suffered disease, hardship, and thousands of deaths. And we see how the force emerged from that experience even tougher and more aggressive than before. With the decisive victory at Vicksburg, the Army of the Tennessee had taken control of the Mississippi away from the Confederates and could swing east to aid other Union troops in a grand rolling up of Rebel defenses. It did so with a confidence born of repeated success, even against numerical odds, leading one of its soldiers to remark that he and his comrades expected "nothing but victory." The Army of the Tennessee contributed to the Union triumph at Chattanooga in the fall of 1863 and then became part of William Tecumseh Sherman's combined force in the following summer's march to Atlanta. In the complicated maneuvering of that campaign, Sherman referred to the army as his whiplash and used it whenever fast marching and arduous fighting were especially needed. Just outside Atlanta, it absorbed the Confederacy's heaviest counterblow and experienced its hardest single day of combat. Thereafter, it continued as part of Sherman's corps in his March to the Sea and his campaign through the Carolinas. The story of this army is one of perseverance in the face of difficulty, courage amid severe trials, resolute lessons in fighting taught by equally courageous foes, and the determination of a generation of young men to see a righteous cause all the way through to victory. Nothing but Victory is an important addition to the literature of the Civil War.

From Publishers Weekly Starred . The Union's military effort in the first half of the Civil War remains essentially defined by the Army of the Potomac: earnest and willing, but consistently outfought and outgeneraled. A similar image accompanies the Army of the Cumberland, the second most familiar Union field army. But in the Mississippi Valley, the North developed an army that defeated all comers from Shiloh to Savannah, participated in the war's decisive battles from Fort Donelson through Vicksburg to Atlanta, and raised some of the war's finest generals. Until now, the Army of the Tennessee has been relatively neglected—perhaps because it fails to fit the Union stereotype of triumphing by force rather than finesse. Woodworth, a historian at Texas Christian University who has written several books on the Civil War (*Beneath a Northern Sky*; *A Scythe of Fire*; etc.), corrects this oversight in what is arguably the best one-volume history written to date of a Civil War field army. Combining impeccable scholarship and comfortable style, Woodworth describes a force whose tone was set by volunteer regiments from the farms and small towns of the Mississippi Valley: Iowa, Illinois, Missouri. Already accustomed to hard work and rough living, these men readily learned how to march and fight. Though Woodworth credits the army's unique combination of steadiness and aggressiveness to its first commander, Ulysses S. Grant, he details how the Army of the Tennessee learned war from other masters as well: West Point graduates, like William Sherman and James McPherson; civilian corps commanders, like "Black Jack" Logan and Frank Blair; and hundreds of field and company officers who learned their craft on the job and who led by example rather than by order. They made the Army of the Tennessee the Union's whiplash in the West and one of the three or four most formidable large formations in America's military history. (Oct. 28) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist A veteran Civil War military historian, Woodworth specializes in the western campaigns, in which the Union's premier force was the Army of the Tennessee. Raised from Illinois, Iowa, and Wisconsin, its commanders over time were Grant, Halleck, Sherman, and McPherson, and Woodworth's narrative duly oscillates between the headquarters tent and the soldiers' campfire. Typical of Civil War armies, this one was affected at the top by political machinations, whose negative effects on field operations Woodworth astutely analyzes; Grant's eventual surmounting of these obstacles earns the author's unqualified respect. For to the extent any military unit possesses a personality, this army had Grant's. Woodworth concludes that, besides strategic acumen exhibited in the Vicksburg campaign, Grant imparted to his officers the principle of relentless advance, which kept morale high and Confederate forces off balance. As to the soldiers' thoughts, which were of home and victory, Woodworth ably crafts them into his account of

the army's battles, from Shiloh to Chattanooga to Georgia. Balanced and readable, Woodworth's work is an exemplary army-level unit history. Gilbert Taylor Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved "Truly impressive. . . . Woodworth has described with clarity and vigor the tactical actions in such battles as Shiloh, Champion Hill and Atlanta." –The New York of Books "Impressive. . . . To learn about the Civil War in the Western Theater through the service of its principal Union army, this is the book to read." –The Charleston Post and Courier "The best one-volume history written to date of a Civil War field army. . . . Combines] impeccable scholarship and comfortable style." –Publishers Weekly, starred review "Exhaustively researched and compellingly readable. . . . Stunning. . . . A resounding success.." –Boston Edge From the Trade Paperback edition.