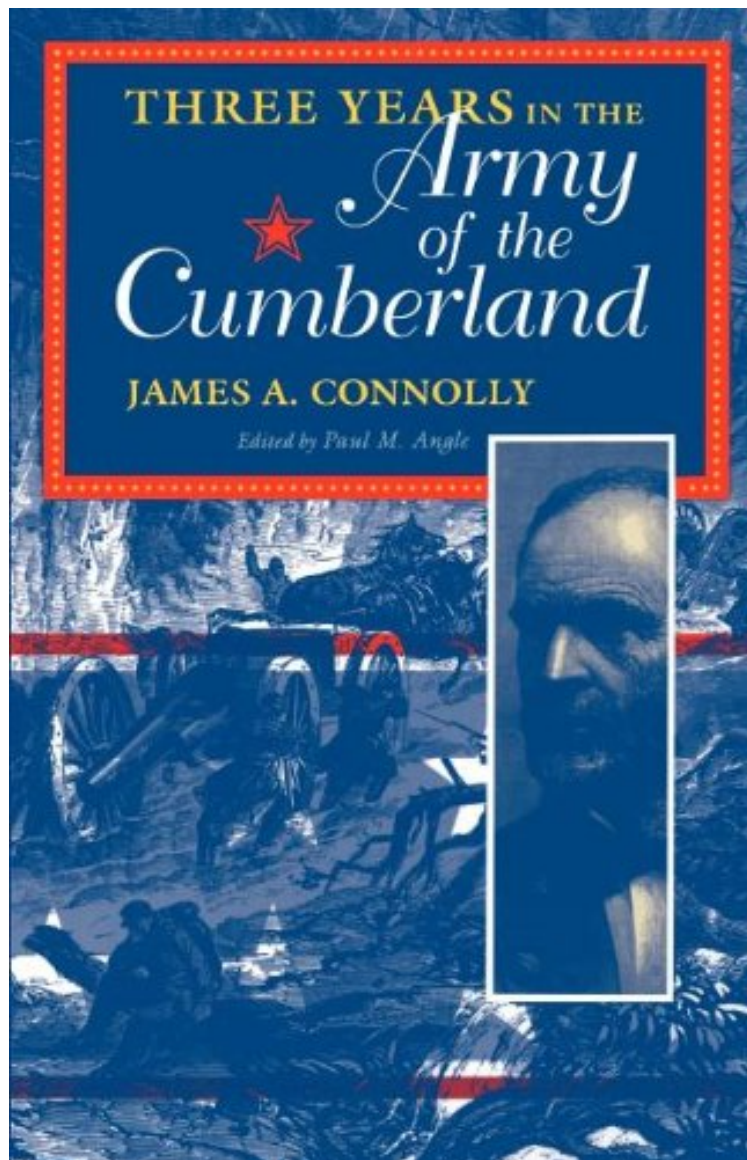


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From James A Connolly : Three Years in the Army of the Cumberland: The Letters and Diary of Major James A. Connolly (Civil War Centennial Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Three Years in the Army of the Cumberland: The Letters and Diary of Major James A.

Connolly (Civil War Centennial Series):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Western Soldiers in the Civil WarBy M. WilsonFor anyone wanting to know about Western Troops in the Civil War, this is a good book to read. At the time, Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, Iowa were considered western states. This book gives the reader insight into the battles and life of a western soldier fighting during the civil war. While the eastern armies were losing battles, the battle-hardened western soldier was winning. A good book to read.7 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Rather mundaneBy Dr. Dave in FresnoI purchased this believing I would learn a great deal about Wilder's Lightning Brigade because the 123rd Illinois was one of the four regiments in this brigade. Unfortunately, Major Connolly's letters to his wife included little about any military matters because he was afraid his letters might be intercepted and read by the Rebels and in September 1863 he transferred to the position of inspector for the Division commanded by General Baird, so his diary contains boring administrative stuff. Also, the "editor" of the book, Paul Angle, added nothing in the form of explanatory footnotes to overcome these profound weaknesses. I really question why Indiana University Press decided to publish this book.

... offers an unsurpassed chronicle of the war in the West." ?Register of the Kentucky Historical SocietyThis eyewitness account brings a better understanding to a conflict that brought a nation to its knees." ?Historical Media Review... an exceptional Civil War narrative. It has value for the military and literary historian." ?War, Literature, and the ArtsThe letters and diary of Major James Austin Connolly, 123rd Illinois Infantry, constitute an unsurpassed record of Civil War campaigning in the West. Connolly had a flair for narrative, an eye for people and places, and a smooth and facile style. His accounts offer a realistic picture of day-to-day soldiering in the Civil War?of rough, spare living in the field, of boredom and fun in camp, of seemingly aimless scouts, and of the high excitement of battle.

From the Back CoverThe letters and diary of Major James Austin Connolly, 123rd Illinois Infantry, constitute an unsurpassed record Civil War campaigning in the West. Connolly had a flair for narrative, an eye for people and places, and a smooth and facile style.About the AuthorPAUL ANGLE was Director and Secretary of the Chicago Historical Society. He was author of many books, including Mary Lincoln, Wife and Widow (with Carl Sandburg), Here I Have Lived: A History of Lincoln's Springfield, A Shelf of Lincoln's Books, and The Lincoln Reader.