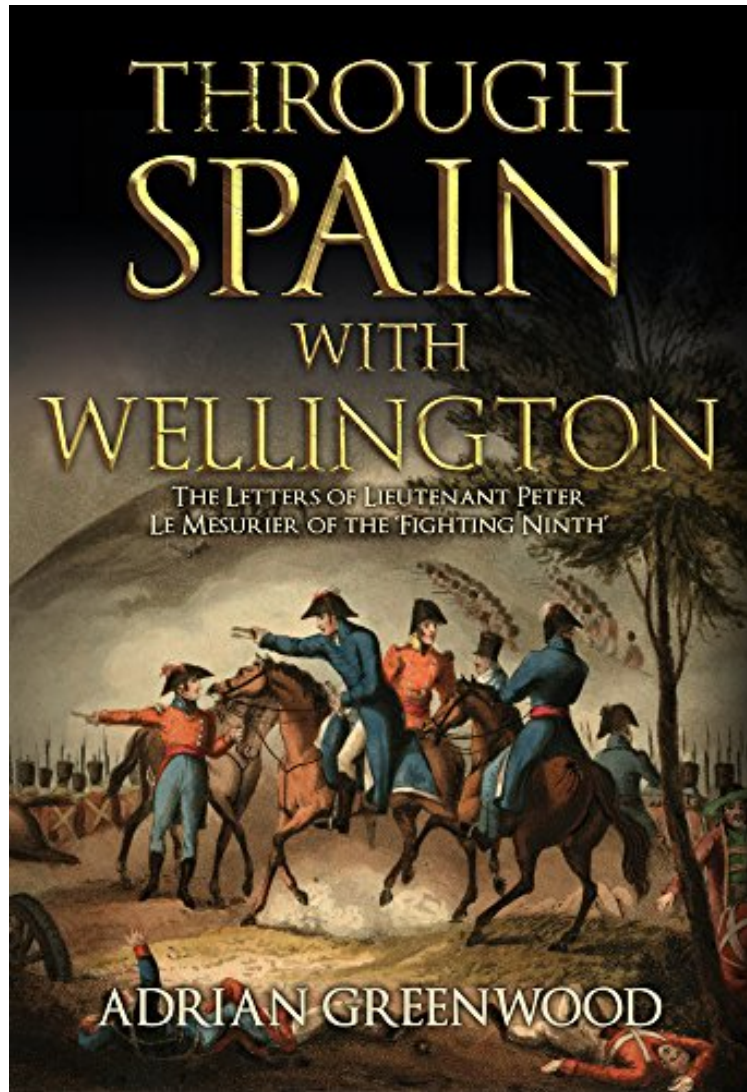


[Download ebook] Through Spain with Wellington: The Letters of Lieutenant Peter Le Mesurier of the 'Fighting Ninth'

Through Spain with Wellington: The Letters of Lieutenant Peter Le Mesurier of the 'Fighting Ninth'

Adrian Greenwood

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Adrian Greenwood : Through Spain with Wellington: The Letters of Lieutenant Peter Le Mesurier of the 'Fighting Ninth' before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Through Spain with Wellington: The Letters of Lieutenant Peter Le Mesurier of the 'Fighting Ninth':

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Letters From The Front By Philip H. Kozloff Adrian Greenwood did historians interested in military history a real service in finding these letters, arranging them in sequence, researching

the sometimes obscure references in the letters, filling in important context, and finally publishing it all. All this he did superbly well. The end product is an engaging read that adds substantially to our understanding of Wellington's campaigns in the Peninsula War with Napoleon. He has done this without sacrificing a very human view of the man who was Peter Le Mesurier. Peter entered the army with juvenile enthusiasm and ambition. Over the course of his letters, we see him develop and begin to appreciate himself as a charming young man in a difficult situation. His sense of humour never leaves him and we can see that his devotion to his Guernsey family is a constant of his life. The more we read of his letters, the more we like him. We tend to think modern military warfare is different now than it was 150 years ago. This book intrinsically tends to challenge that perception because, from the point of view of the soldier in the trench, Le Mesurier's concerns and emotions will resonate and seem very modern to a soldier today. Wellington's army was surprisingly modern in that it provided personal postal services to its troops serving on the front lines in Spain and Portugal. We are fortunate that Le Mesurier took advantage of that service and wrote the letters so assiduously, that the letters were preserved over these 150 years, and that Adrian Greenwood brought them all together in such an appealing package. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By Mark Kaczmarek As described. Timely arrival.

Gazetted into the 9th Foot as an ensign in 1808, Peter Le Mesurier saw action from the earliest days of the Peninsular War almost to its end. The 'Fighting Ninth' were in the thick of it, and his letters describe nearly every major engagement of the war; the retreat to Corunna, the Walcheren Expedition, the sieges of Ciudad Rodrigo, Badajoz, Burgos and San Sebastian, and the battles of Salamanca, Vitoria, the Nivelle and the Nive. The correspondence of this young officer provides a unique and fresh insight into the campaigns of Moore and Wellington against Napoleon. They also show the transformation of the boy into the man. He suffers retreats and celebrates victories, witnesses sieges, rape and plunder, and falls in love; his letters are spiced with fascinating asides, wry humour, rich period detail, some very human fears and admissions, and the casual understatement of the British officer. Any unpublished letters from the conflict are scarce, but such an extensive unpublished collection is rare indeed. With background information and commentary provided by expert Adrian Greenwood and meticulously footnoted, this is a worthy addition to the literature of the Napoleonic Wars.

'One of the most revealing first-hand accounts of life in Wellington's army to be discovered for many years.'--Rory Muir, author of Wellington About the Author Adrian Greenwood read Philosophy, Politics and Economics at Christ Church, Oxford before taking an MBA at Imperial College. After university he set up as an antiques dealer, eventually specialising in antiquarian books. After retiring he concentrated on his writing, his particular field of interest is 19th century British military history, and he is currently researching a major work on loot, plunder and battlefield souvenirs. He has contributed to numerous magazines, periodicals and newspapers.