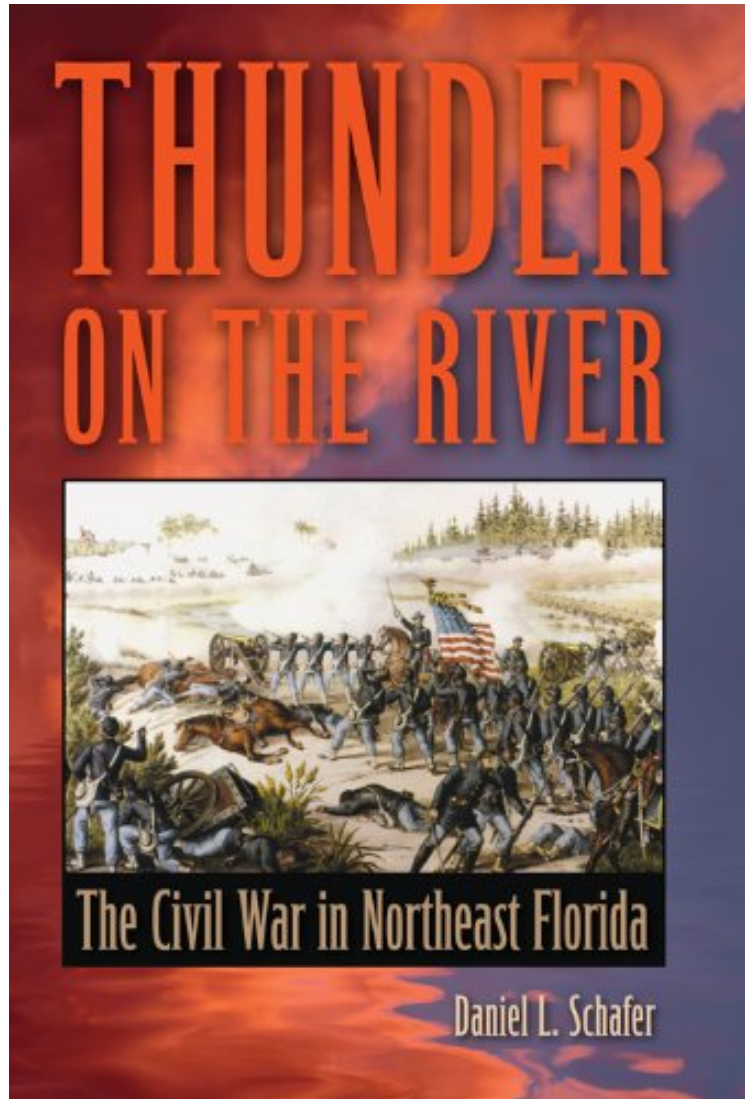


[FREE] Thunder on the River: The Civil War in Northeast Florida

Thunder on the River: The Civil War in Northeast Florida

Daniel L. Schafer

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Daniel L. Schafer : Thunder on the River: The Civil War in Northeast Florida before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Thunder on the River: The Civil War in Northeast Florida:

12 of 12 people found the following review helpful. Engaging, readable, yet scholarlyBy Ross L. LamoreauxDaneil L. Schafer wrote a rarity in today's history field - an engaging, readable, yet scholarly book on a topic that has not been well covered in the Civil War field. I can add little that hasn't been said in the previous reviews, but will state that the breadth and scope of research combined many sources, from the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion to hard-

to-find contemporary journals, diaries, and accounts, is quite impressive. I did find a bias toward the Unionist perspective with a focus on emancipation of African Americans, Union troop movements and actions, and a little less on the Confederate or southern perspective. This does not detract from the presentation of information, and I found myself learning even more about a topic that I had a good foundation on to begin with. Those who want only the southern perspective will not appreciate this book, but those who want to learn or increase their knowledge of the Civil War in northeast Florida should have this book on their shelves as required reading. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By cjtaylorgreat book5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Florida's Civil War By Tyler A must-see for Civil War collectors! Not much is known on the campaigns that were done in Florida, except the foothold of Federal troops on Fort Pickens, despite the call for their surrender by Confederate military authorities. This book dives deep into the swamps of Florida, the multiple occupations of Jacksonville, and the famous battle fought in February, 1864 that was claimed as a Confederate victory. I believe the infamous African-American 54th Massachusetts Regiment was there after it's blood was shed at Battery Wagner in 1863. When I read the other reviews about this book, I KNEW I had to get this book! The reviews were all true and the book is simply awesome! Not to mention the delivery was very fast and brief.

A captivating history of the Civil War in northeast Florida "Captures in rich detail the competition between the Confederates and Unionists, blacks and whites, and civilians and soldiers in the region. A fascinating and illuminating story told through compelling and persuasive prose."--Aaron Sheehan-Dean, author of *Why Confederates Fought* "A fast-paced social history of the Civil War in northeastern Florida."--John David Smith, editor of *Black Soldiers in Blue* When the Civil War finally came to North Florida, it did so with an intermittent fury that destroyed much of Jacksonville and scattered its residents. The city was taken four separate times by Federal forces but abandoned after each of the first three occupations. During the fourth occupation, it was used as a staging ground for the ill-fated Union invasion of the Florida interior, which ended in the bloody Battle of Olustee in February 1864. This late Confederate victory, along with the deadly use of underwater mines against the U.S. Navy along the St. Johns, nearly succeeded in ending the fourth Union occupation of Jacksonville. Writing in clear, engaging prose, Daniel Schafer sheds light on this oft-forgotten theatre of war and details the dynamic racial and cultural factors that led to Florida's engagement on behalf of the South. He investigates how fears about the black population increased and held sway over whites, seeking out the true motives behind both the state and federal initiatives that drove freed blacks from the cities back to the plantations even before the war's end. From the Missouri Compromise to Reconstruction, *Thunder on the River* offers the history of a city and a region precariously situated as a major center of commerce on the brink of frontier Florida. Historians and Civil War aficionados alike will not want to miss this important addition to the literature.

"[A] well written, fast-paced narrative of the Civil War in Northeast Florida...[that] vividly portrays the life, death, and destruction as Union troops invaded and occupied Jacksonville."—Civil War Book