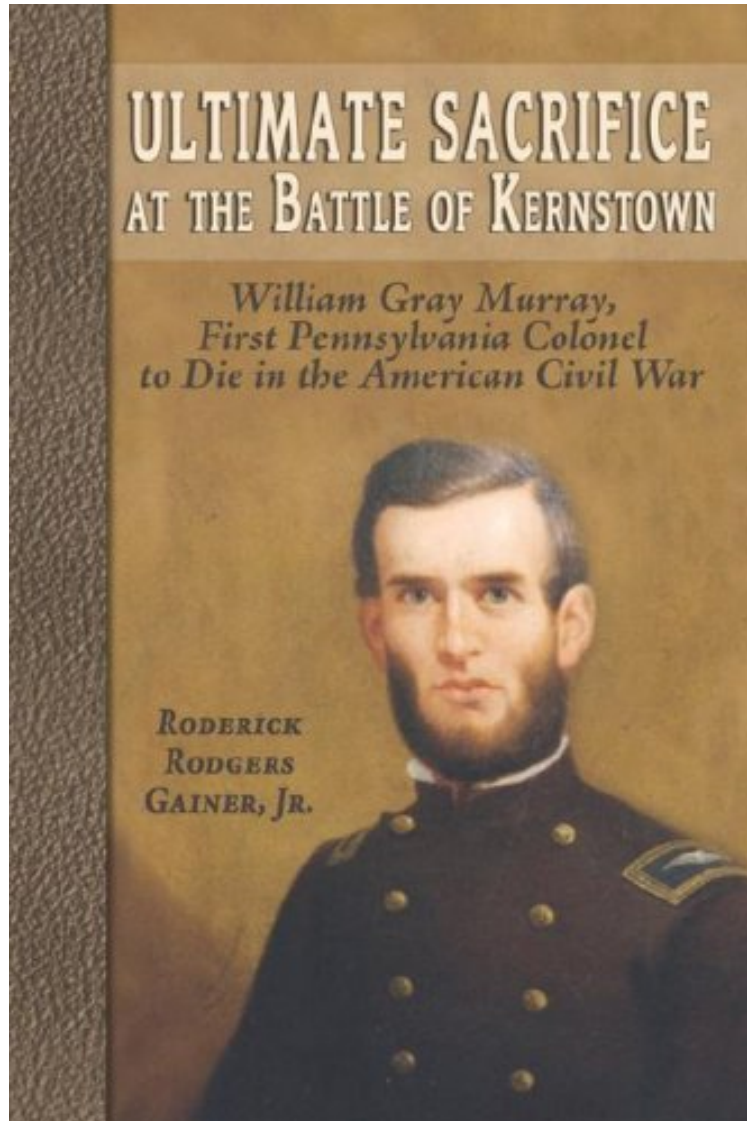


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Ultimate Sacrifice at Kernstown: William Gray Murray,

Roderick Rodgers Gainer Jr.

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Roderick Rodgers Gainer Jr. : Ultimate Sacrifice at Kernstown: William Gray Murray, before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ultimate Sacrifice at Kernstown: William Gray Murray,:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Enjoyable and informative. *Recommended*By Galaxus of TennesseeBeen a while since I've read this - a repeat read is definitely in order. I do recall it being a very informative and well written book, and a very enjoyable read. Definitely RECOMMEND.0 of 0 people found the following review

helpful. History with a personal touch
By Terry Mcguire
A very interesting history that doesn't recite dry details, but presents the human side of a gallant soldier.
2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Very Interesting Biography
By Edward M. Hoden
Ultimate Sacrifice is a quick and interesting read on the military career of a Union Civil War colonel. As the biography of William Gray Murray, the book has a nice pace, easy prose, and covers a lot of ground. Mr. Gainer does a very good job of capturing the trials and tribulations of an immigrant turned soldier in the 1800's United States, right down to the bullet which took Murray's life. The book also works as a survey of the life of a 19th century American soldier. One has to wonder how many other Col. Murrays there were serving on both sides of the War Between the States. This book provides a glimpse into the men who were surely the heart and soul of the American and Confederate armies.

William Gray Murray rose to positions of great importance despite his humble beginnings. Prior to the Civil War, he led a distinguished life, as both a soldier serving with distinction in the Mexican War and as postmaster of Blair County, Pennsylvania. As colonel of the 84th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, Murray ably led his regiment at Hancock and played a leading role in foiling the plans of Stonewall Jackson. Murray fell at the head of his regiment at the Battle of Kernstown.

a revealing portrait of a patriot and long forgotten war-hero. At last, Colonel Murray has received the attention he so richly deserves. Mr. Gainer is to be commended for his effort, which is factually correct and well written. Recommended. --David L. Richards, Licensed Battlefield Guide, Gettysburg National Military Park, Historian, Eighty-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry
Vividly details not only the military actions on the battlefield, but offers readers an insightful look into the life of the Irish Colonel, including an excellent rendering of his experience in the War with Mexico and his personal life as well.... opens the door for the reader to catch a glimpse of the behind the scenes struggles of training and disciplining a raw Civil War regiment, as experienced by both officers and enlisted men. Gainer has expanded our knowledge of the lives and motivations of the men who fought at Kernstown. --Scott C. Patchan, Board of Directors, Kernstown Battlefield Association
Congratulations to military historian Roderick Gainer for his crisp and engaging biography of the long-forgotten Murray, the only Pennsylvania colonel killed in the first year of the Civil War. Mr. Gainer's well trained research skills, combined with his natural talent as a nonfiction storyteller, have produced a solid work to help bolster an under-represented category of Civil War literature the life stories of those officers who formed the fabric of the earliest Union armies. --Gary Ecelbarger, author of We Are In For It!: The First Battle of Kernstown
About the Author
Roderick Gainer is a contract historian and collections analyst for the U.S. Army Center of Military History. He obtained a bachelor's degree in history from Arizona State University and studied under Joseph Harsh while obtaining his master's degree from George Mason University in Virginia. Mr. Gainer regularly conducts tours and battlefield staff rides in both Europe and the United States.