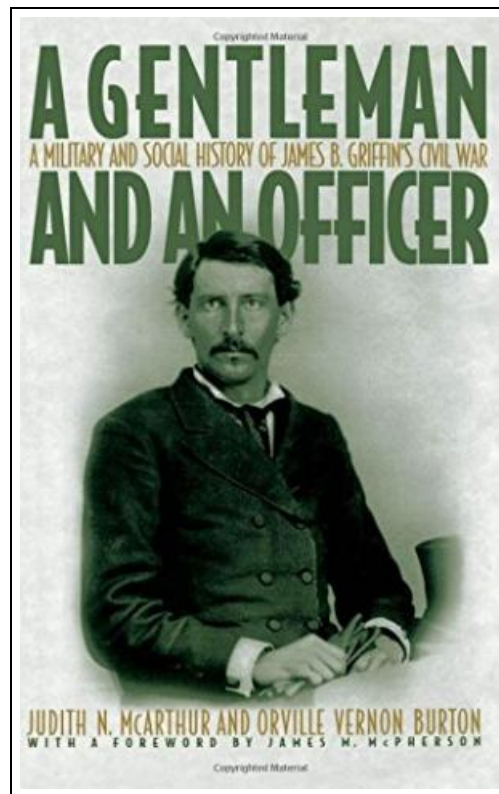


A Gentleman and an Officer : A Military and Social History of James B. Griffin s Civil War



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Good electronic book and valuable one. It is one of the most incredible publication we have read through. It is extremely difficult to leave it before concluding, once you begin to read the book.

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A A GENTLEMAN AND AN OFFICER : A MILITARY AND SOCIAL HISTORY OF JAMES B. GRIFFIN S CIVIL WAR

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Oxford University Press Inc, United States, 1998. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 208 x 138 mm. Language: English Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.In 1861, James B. Griffin left Edgefield, South Carolina and rode off to Virginia to take up duty with the Confederate Army in a style that befitted a Southern gentleman: on a fine-blooded horse, with two slaves to wait on him, two trunks, and his favorite hunting dog. He was thirty-five years old, a wealthy planter, and the owner of sixty-one slaves when he joined Wade Hampton s elite Legion as a major of cavalry. He left behind seven children, the eldest only twelve, and a wife who was eight and a half months pregnant. As a field officer in a prestigious unit, the opportunities for fame and glory seemed limitless. Griffin, however, performed no daring acts, nor did he inspire great loyalty in his men. Instead, he unknowingly provided a unique and invaluable portrait of the Confederate officers who formed the core of Southern political, military, and business leadership. In *A Gentleman and an Officer*, Judith N. McArthur and Orville Vernon Burton have collected eighty of Griffin s letters written at the Virginia front, and during later postings on the South Carolina coast, to his wife Leila Burt Griffin. Extraordinary in their breadth and volume, the letters encompass Griffin s entire Civil War service, detailing living conditions and military maneuvers, the jockeying for position among officers, and the different ways officers and enlisted men interacted during the Civil War. Unlike the reminiscences and biographies of high-ranking, well-known Confederate officers or studies and edited collections of letters of members of the rank and file, this collection sheds light on the life of a middle officer--a life turned upside down by extreme military hardship and complicated further...

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