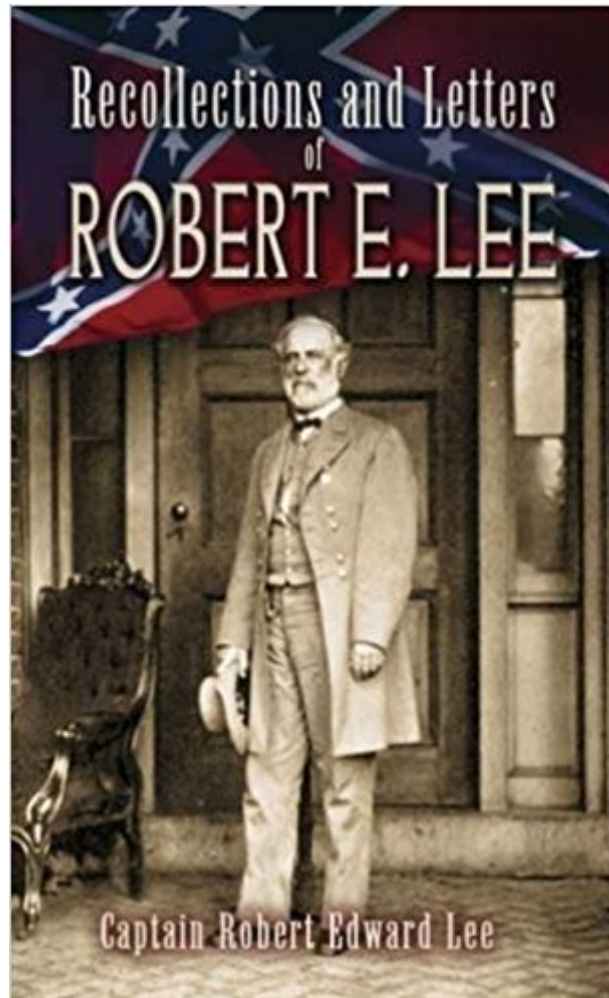




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Recollections And Letters Of Robert E. Lee (Civil War)



Synopsis

Adored by his soldiers and respected by his adversaries, Robert E. Lee achieved worldwide admiration for his military triumphs against a vastly more powerful army. The idol of the Confederacy proved gracious in defeat, and he encouraged other Southerners to follow his example and accept reconciliation with the Union. Revered in his lifetime, Lee achieved legendary status after his death. This extraordinary memoir by his son offers rare glimpses of the man behind the uniform, with scenes from family life and touching letters from a loving husband and father. Lee's youngest son, Robert, published this unique volume in 1904. A celebration of the general's life as well as a priceless contribution to the historical record, it combines correspondence and personal reminiscences dating from the Mexican-American War in the 1840s until the general's death in 1870. In addition to their firsthand reports from Civil War battlefields, Lee's letters offer comfort to the family members at home and express concern for his sons, who served in the Confederate army. His post-war correspondence reflects his devotion to duty in the difficult era of Reconstruction, when he declined more lucrative offers to profit from his fame and assumed the presidency of Washington College, known today as Washington and Lee University. Any study of Robert E. Lee, the South, the Civil War, or American history is incomplete without this remarkable book and its intimate portrait of a towering historical figure.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Robert E. Lee's youngest son and namesake served in the Civil War, advancing from private to captain. With this 1904 publication, he provided valuable historic insights into his famous father's life.

I haven't even finished reading this book, and I realize that it was written by his son, but the letters that General Lee wrote to family, friends and even superior officers give us a clear picture of what an incredible person he was. With each chapter I read, I become more amazed and in awe of the splendid individual General Robert E. Lee was; a man of integrity and compassion, and the ability to lead and inspire others. He may have been on the losing side of the Civil War, but in life, he was a winner!

There is considerable history available of Civil War battles as well as biographies of the leading figures on both sides of the conflict, but this volume provides a window into the person that was Robert E. Lee - a person who seemed to be devoted to his wife, children and friends, and not least to those who fought under his command. Through his letters and his son's commentary, he projects a principled approach to his life, believing that he could not be loyal simultaneously to the United States and to Virginia, and that he had to allow his conscience to dictate his actions. Worth reading to gain a glimpse into the mind of a real statesman.

I would recommend this book to anyone who loves American history. To read the many personal letters of REL brings him to life...as if he were actually writing to us...I came to know this wonderful man of compassion not only for mankind but for all creatures of the earth...his love of his horse Traveller and the cow and many cats and dogs. His wonderful love of God and strong faith were in evidence all through the book so well done by his son Rob...when he took his last breath I felt I had lost a very dear friend!

This is my very favorite book about Robert E. Lee--an extremely interesting man. It's a collection of Lee's letters with narration by Lee's youngest son and namesake, Robert E. Lee, Jr. (Rob). There's so much inaccurate information about Lee. This comes from the source.

You will learn more about the South's battle for independence, the trials and tribulations of the common soldiers and how General Robert E Lee's mind worked from this one book than from any 10 other books.

Fantastic read. This book gives a deep insight into the personality of General R E Lee both through his own letters but also through the narrative of his son Rob. The facts given are interesting but most intriguing is the splendor of the General's love and devotion to his family and the men he served in the Army of Northern Virginia.

Wonderful companion to D.S. Freeman's biography of General Lee. Highly recommended. A great Christian, soldier, and American. One of the greatest America has ever produced.

While most of this book is a collection of Robert Lee's letters to his family, it does offer significant insight as to his character and personality. It's not a review of his Civil War recollections, but instead a look inside the man's deeply religious and family oriented values, which are clearly evident in his personal letters, many of which were written between battles. It is clear that he was a greatly loved and admired southern gentleman, who was able to remain such despite fighting for a losing cause and having most of his personal possessions confiscated by the Union. I was fortunate to have read this before visiting his Arlington, Virginia home.

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