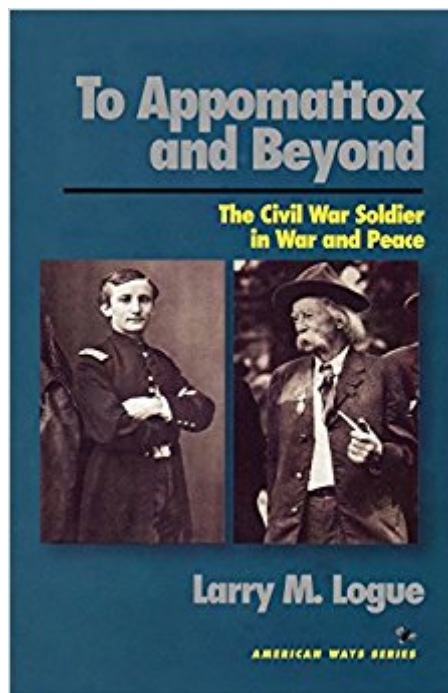




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To Appomattox And Beyond: The Civil War Soldier In War And Peace (American Ways Series)



Synopsis

An immense literature about the Civil War has nonetheless paid surprisingly little attention to the common soldier, North and South. Historians have shown even less concern for the long-term impact of this military service on American society. Larry M. Logue's *To Appomattox and Beyond* makes a major contribution in addressing this need. In a compact synthesis that draws upon important new materials from his own research, Logue provides the fullest account available of the Civil War soldier in war and peace—*who fought, what happened to them in battle, how the public regarded them, how the war changed the rest of their lives, in what ways they were like and different from their counterparts across the Mason-Dixon line.* *To Appomattox and Beyond* offers surprising conclusions about the psychological impact of warfare on its participants; about the North's generous pension system for veterans; and about the role that veterans played in politics and social issues, notably the Confederate racist reaction of the late nineteenth century. In a final irony, Logue points out, by the twentieth century men who had once been enemies now had more in common with each other than with the new world around them.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Logue, professor of history at Mississippi College, has written a stimulating, brief introduction to Civil War soldiers' motivations and behaviors during and after the conflict that defined their lives. Drawing on a broad spectrum of specialized monographs, Logue argues that enlistment on both sides was

encouraged by idealism, desire to prove one's masculinity, and commitment to preserving a way of life. Beginning as individualists, Union and Confederate soldiers alike developed a profound appreciation of solidarity: common experiences created bonds. These ties were revived in the postwar South by a commitment to restoring white supremacy, in the North by a concern for pensions. Although both campaigns were successful, in the long run the broad-gauged nature of their program gave Confederate veterans far more influence than ex-Union soldiers. Of most interest to social historians. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Logue (history, Mississippi Coll.) offers an evenhanded introduction to the impact of America's Civil War on those who fought. He balances a conventional interpretation of their wartime experience with a distinctly progressive analysis of the effects of the conflict on the surviving combatants and their postwar lives. He deftly reveals the schism between the veterans, whose sporadic political efforts to secure pensions and benefits presaged today's political action committees, and a society that honored their sacrifice but only grudgingly funded America's first "social security" system. Logue's work includes an excellent bibliographic essay. Suitable for public and academic libraries. Lawrence E. Ellis, Newberry Coll., S.C. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

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