WILLIAM MARVEL

Lincoln 5 AUTOCRAT

Edwin Stanton

<u>Lincolns Autocrat The Life Of Edwin Stanton Civil War</u> <u>America</u>

Caroline E. Janney, Kathryn J. Shively

Lincolns Autocrat The Life Of Edwin Stanton Civil War America:

Lincoln's Autocrat William Marvel,2015-04-15 Edwin M Stanton 1814 1869 one of the nineteenth century s most impressive legal and political minds wielded enormous influence and power as Lincoln's secretary of war during most of the Civil War and under Johnson during the early years of Reconstruction In the first full biography of Stanton in more than fifty years William Marvel offers a detailed reexamination of Stanton's life career and legacy Marvel argues that while Stanton was a formidable advocate and politician his character was hardly benign Climbing from a difficult youth to the pinnacle of power Stanton used his authority and the public coffers to pursue political vendettas and he exercised sweeping wartime powers with a cavalier disregard for civil liberties Though Lincoln's ability to harness a cabinet with sharp divisions and strong personalities is widely celebrated Marvel suggests that Stanton's tenure raises important questions about Lincoln's actual control over the executive branch This insightful biography also reveals why men like Ulysses S Grant considered Stanton a coward and a bully who was unashamed to use political power for partisan enforcement and personal preservation

The Cambridge History of the American Civil War: Volume 2, Affairs of the State Aaron

Sheehan-Dean, 2019-10-31 This volume explores the political and social dimensions of the Civil War in both the North and South Millions of Americans lived outside the major campaign zones so they experienced secondary exposure to military events through newspaper reporting and letters home from soldiers Governors and Congressmen assumed a major role in steering the personnel decisions strategic planning and methods of fighting but regular people also played roles in direct military action as guerrilla fighters as nurses and doctors and as military contractors Chapters investigate a variety of aspects of military leadership and management including coverage of technology discipline finance the environment and health and medicine Chapters also consider the political administration of the war examining how antebellum disputes over issues such as emancipation and the draft resulted in a shift of partisan dynamics and the ways that people of all stripes took advantage of the flux of war to advance their own interests America's Unending Civil War William Nester, 2024-03-31 Explores the Civil War s related and enduring conflicts of ideas and principles through four centuries of a nation s history The Civil War fascinates Americans like no other war in their history Many Americans are still fighting some of the war s issues in an Odyssey that stretches back to the first settlement and will persist until the end of time The war itself was an Iliad of brilliant generals like Grant Sherman and Sheridan for the Union or Lee Jackson and Forrest for the Confederacy epic battles like Gettysburg and Chickamauga epic sieges like Vicksburg and Petersburg and epic naval combats such as Monitor versus Merrimack or Kearsarge versus Alabama It was America's most horrific war with more dead than all others combined Around 625 000 soldiers and 125 000 civilians died from various causes bringing the total to 750 000 people Of 31 million Americans 2.1 million northerners and 880 000 southerners donned uniforms Why did eleven states eventually ban together to rebel against the United States President Jefferson Davis began an answer when he said If the Confederacy falls there

should be written on its tombstone Died of a Theory That theory justified the enslavement of blacks by whites as a natural right and duty of a superior race over an inferior race a theory it was believed that morally and economically elevated both races Although slavery was the Civil War s core cause there were related chronic conflicts over the nature of government citizenship liberty property equality wealth race identity justice crime voting power and history some of which issues have never entirely gone away America s Unending Civil War is unique among thousands of books on the subject None before has explored the Civil War s related and enduring conflicts of ideas and principles through four centuries of a nation s history

The Great "What Ifs" of the American Civil War Chris Mackowski, Brian Matthew Jordan, 2022-01-04 Thought provoking and entertaining What if Lincoln had dodged the assassin's bullet What if Lee had waged guerrilla warfare in April 1865 Gordon C Rhea author of the Overland Campaign series What if Every Civil War armchair general asks the guestion Possibilities unfold Disappointments vanish Imaginations soar More questions arise What if can be more than an exercise in wistful fantasy A serious inquiry sparks rigorous exploration demands critical thinking and unlocks important insights The Great What Ifs of the American Civil War Historians Tackle the Conflict's Most Intriguing Possibilities is a collection of fourteen essays by the historians at Emerging Civil War and includes a Foreword by acclaimed alternate history writer Peter G Tsouras Each entry focuses on one of the most important events of the war and unpacks the options of the moment To understand what happened we must look with a clear and objective eye at what could have happened with the full multitude of choices before us What if is a tool for illumination These essays also explode the assumptions people make when they ask what if and then jump to wishful conclusions This collection offers not alternate histories or counterfactual scenarios but an invitation to ask to learn and to wonder A lively and engaging examination of those perennial second guesses no student of the war fails to appreciate No pie in the sky here each exploration is firmly rooted in fact with a keen appreciation of context providing provocative insight without sacrificing history David A Powell author of the award winning series The Chickamauga <u>Lincoln's Spies</u> Douglas Waller, 2020-08-18 This major addition to the history of the Civil War is a fast paced Campaign fact rich account The Wall Street Journal offering a detailed look at President Abraham Lincoln's use of clandestine services and the secret battles waged by Union spies and agents to save the nation filled with espionage sabotage and intrigue Veteran CIA correspondent Douglas Waller delivers a riveting account of the heroes and misfits who carried out a shadow war of espionage and covert operations behind the Confederate battlefields Lincoln's Spies follows four agents from the North three men and one woman who informed Lincoln's generals on the enemy positions for crucial battles and busted up clandestine Rebel networks Famed detective Allan Pinkerton mounted a successful covert operation to slip Lincoln through Baltimore before his inauguration after he learns of an assassination attempt from his agents working undercover as Confederate soldiers But he proved less than competent as General George McClellan's spymaster delivering faulty intelligence reports that overestimated Confederate strength George Sharpe an erudite New York lawyer succeeded

Pinkerton as spymaster for the Union's Army of the Potomac Sharpe deployed secret agents throughout the South planted misinformation with Robert E Lee's army and outpaced anything the enemy could field Elizabeth Van Lew a Virginia heiress who hated slavery and disapproved of secession was one of Sharpe's most successful agents. She ran a Union spy ring in Richmond out of her mansion with dozens of agents feeding her military and political secrets that she funneled to General Ulysses S Grant as his army closed in on the Confederate capital Van Lew became one of the unsung heroes of history Lafavette Baker was a handsome Union officer with a controversial past whose agents clashed with Pinkerton's operatives He assembled a retinue of disreputable spies thieves and prostitutes to root out traitors in Washington DC But he failed at his most important mission uncovering the threat to Lincoln from John Wilkes Booth and his gang Behind these operatives was Abraham Lincoln one of our greatest presidents who was an avid consumer of intelligence and a ruthless aficionado of clandestine warfare willing to take whatever chances necessary to win the war Lincoln's Spies is a meticulous chronicle of all facets of Lincoln's war effort Kirkus Reviews and an excellent choice for those wanting a cracking good tale Publishers Weekly of espionage in the Civil War The Generals' Civil War Stephen Cushman, 2021-09-15 In December 1885 under the watchful eye of Mark Twain the publishing firm of Charles L Webster and Company released the first volume of the Personal Memoirs of Ulysses S Grant With a second volume published in March 1886 Grant's memoirs became a popular sensation Seeking to capitalize on Grant's success and interest in earlier reminiscences by Joseph E Johnston William T Sherman and Richard Taylor other Civil War generals such as George B McClellan and Philip H Sheridan soon followed suit Some hewed more closely to Grant's model than others and their points of similarity and divergence left readers increasingly fascinated with the history and meaning of the nation s great conflict The writings also dovetailed with a rising desire to see the full sweep of American history chronicled as its citizens looked to the start of a new century Professional historians engaged with the memoirs as an important foundation for this work In this insightful book Stephen Cushman considers Civil War generals memoirs as both historical and literary works revealing how they remain vital to understanding the interaction of memory imagination and the writing of American history Cushman shows how market forces shaped the production of the memoirs and therefore memories of the war itself how audiences have engaged with the works to create ideas of history that fit with time and circumstance and what these texts tell us about current conflicts over the history and meanings of the Civil War

A Confederate in Congress Joshua E. Kastenberg, 2016-10-28 In May 1865 the final month of the Civil War the U S Army arrested and prosecuted a sitting congressman in a military trial in the border state of Maryland though the federal criminal courts in the state were functioning Convicted of aiding and abetting paroled Confederate soldiers Benjamin Gwinn Harris of Maryland s Fifth Congressional District was imprisoned and barred from holding public office Harris was a firebrand effectively a Confederate serving in Congress and had long advocated the constitutionality of slavery and the right of states to secede from the Union This first ever book length analysis of the unusual trial examines the prevailing opinions in

Southern Maryland and in the War Department regarding slavery treason and the Constitution's guarantee of property rights **Lincoln's Peace** Michael Vorenberg, 2025-03-18 One historian s journey to find the end of the and freedom of speech Civil War and along the way to expand our understanding of the nature of war itself and how societies struggle to draw the line between war and peace We set out on the James River March 25 1865 aboard the paddle steamboat River Queen President Lincoln is on his way to General Grant's headquarters at City Point Virginia and he s decided he won t return to Washington until he s witnessed or perhaps even orchestrated the end of the Civil War Now it turns out more than a century and a half later historians are still searching for that end Was it April 9 at Appomattox as conventional wisdom holds where Lee surrendered to Grant in Wilmer McLean's parlor Or was it ten weeks afterward in Galveston where a federal commander proclaimed Juneteenth the end of slavery Or perhaps in August of 1866 when President Andrew Johnson simply declared the insurrection is at an end That the answer was elusive was baffling even to a historian of the stature of Michael Vorenberg whose work served as a key source of Steven Spielberg's Lincoln Vorenberg was inspired to write this groundbreaking book finding its title in the peace Lincoln hoped for but could not make before his assassination A peace that required not one but many endings as Vorenberg reveals in these pages the most important of which came well more than a year after Lincoln s untimely death To say how a war ends is to suggest how it should be remembered and Vorenberg's search is not just for the Civil War's endpoint but for its true nature and legacy so essential to the American identity It's also a guest in our age of forever wars to understand whether the United States s interminable conflicts of the current era have a precedent in the Civil War and whether in a sense wars ever end at all or merely wax and wane Daniel Sickles: A Life Garry Boulard, 2019-11-19 The name Daniel Sickles and the word controversy are synonymous Any student of 19th century American political history is familiar with Sickles 1859 murder of Philip Barton Key the son of Francis Scott Key who had seduced Sickles young wife That murder because Sickles was at the time a New York Congressman and Key a district attorney for Washington captured the country's imagination a front page event that inevitably ensnarled President James Buchanan a close Sickles friend inviting in the process explorations of what was seen as a sordid Washington society of the late 1850s Civil War historians know Sickles as the General who led the men of the Union's III Corps out onto the exposed expanse of the Peach Orchard at Gettysburg a decision many scholars have regarded as disastrous and one that nearly led to an overall Union defeat at the famous battlefield while losing for Sickles his right leg from Confederate shelling But these two singular if spectacular events in a very real sense represent only two days out of an extraordinary lifetime of 94 years The rest of Sickles career was made up of his rise as a young stalwart of New York s notorious Tammany Hall his two terms in Congress leading up to the Civil War his contentious service as a military governor of the Carolinas after the War his newsworthy tenure as U S Minister to Spain in the late 1860s and early 70s and even his stint at the age of 70 as the sheriff of the county encompassing New York City Beyond the headlines were Sickles relationships with presidents ranging from Franklin Pierce to Abraham Lincoln and

Ulysses S Grant not to mention an improbable friendship with Theodore Roosevelt at the turn of the century Daniel Sickles A Life is the first full length published treatment looking in depth at the entirely of one man's almost unbelievably colorful and contentious career Garry Boulard is the author of The Expatriation of Franklin Pierce The Story of a President and the Civil War iUniverse 2006 and The Worst President The Story of James Buchanan iUniverse 2015 Boulard's essays and reviews have appeared in the Journal of Southern History Journal of Ethnic Studies Louisiana History Journal of Mississippi History and Florida Historical Quarterly among many other publications The Annotated Memoirs of Ulysses S. Grant Ulysses S. Grant, 2018-11-27 With kaleidoscopic trenchant path breaking insights Elizabeth D Samet has produced the most ambitious edition of Ulysses Grant's Memoirs yet published One hundred and thirty three years after its 1885 publication by Mark Twain Elizabeth Samet has annotated this lavish edition of Grant's landmark memoir and expands the Civil War backdrop against which this monumental American life is typically read No previous edition combines such a sweep of historical and cultural contexts with the literary authority that Samet an English professor obsessed with Grant for decades brings to the table Whether exploring novels Grant read at West Point or presenting majestic images culled from archives Samet curates a richly annotated highly collectible edition that will fascinate Civil War buffs The edition also breaks new ground in its attack on the Lost Cause revisionism that still distorts our national conversation about the legacy of the Civil War Never has Grant s transformation from tanner s son to military leader been more insightfully and passionately explained than in this timely edition appearing on the 150th anniversary of Grant's 1868 presidential election Christopher H. Tebault, Surgeon to the Confederacy Alan I. West, 2020-02-19 Among the top physicians of the Confederacy Christopher H Tebault distinguished himself as a surgeon during the Civil War Recognized for his medical contributions after the war he was nominated Surgeon General of the United Confederate Veterans a position he used to compile the history of Confederate medicine advocate for veterans and contribute to Southern literature A staunch Lost Cause proponent he also fought Reconstruction policies and the enfranchisement of former slaves Drawing on his own writings this first biography of Tebault describes his notable medical education in New Orleans and the ingenuity he used to treat wounds and illness as well as his struggles against Reconstruction policies situating his story in the problematic context of Confederate history that persists today The Impeachers Brenda Wineapple, 2020-05-19 ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR Jennifer Szalai The New York Times The New York Times Book Review NPR Publishers Weekly This absorbing and important book recounts the titanic struggle over the implications of the Civil War amid the impeachment of a defiant and temperamentally erratic American president Jon Meacham Pulitzer Prize winning author of The Soul of America When Abraham Lincoln was assassinated and Vice President Andrew Johnson became the Accidental President it was a dangerous time in America Congress was divided over how the Union should be reunited when and how the secessionist South should regain full status whether former Confederates should be punished and when and whether black men should be given the vote Devastated by war and

resorting to violence many white Southerners hoped to restore a pre Civil War society if without slavery and the pugnacious Andrew Johnson seemed to share their goals With the unchecked power of executive orders Johnson ignored Congress pardoned rebel leaders promoted white supremacy opposed civil rights and called Reconstruction unnecessary It fell to Congress to stop the American president who acted like a king With profound insights and making use of extensive research Brenda Wineapple dramatically evokes this pivotal period in American history when the country was rocked by the first ever impeachment of a sitting American president And she brings to vivid life the extraordinary characters who brought that impeachment forward the willful Johnson and his retinue of advocates including complicated men like Secretary of State William Seward as well as the equally complicated visionaries committed to justice and equality for all like Thaddeus Stevens Charles Sumner Frederick Douglass and Ulysses S Grant Theirs was a last ditch patriotic and Constitutional effort to render the goals of the Civil War into reality and to make the Union free fair and whole Praise for The Impeachers In this superbly lyrical work Brenda Wineapple has plugged a glaring hole in our historical memory through her vivid and sweeping portrayal of President Andrew Johnson's 1868 impeachment She serves up not simply food for thought but a veritable feast of observations on that most trying decision for a democracy whether to oust a sitting president Teeming with fiery passions and unforgettable characters The Impeachers will be devoured by contemporary readers seeking enlightenment on this issue A landmark study Ron Chernow Pulitzer Prize winning author of Grant Lincoln Takes Command Steve Norder, 2019-12-20 A detailed history of one week during the Civil War in which the American president assumed control of the nation s military One rainy evening in May 1862 President Abraham Lincoln boarded the revenue cutter Miami and sailed to Fort Monroe in Hampton Roads Virginia There for the first and only time in our country's history a sitting president assumed direct control of armed forces to launch a military campaign In Lincoln Takes Command author Steve Norderdetails this exciting little known week in Civil War history Lincoln recognized the strategic possibilities offered by Maj Gen George B McClellan s ongoing Peninsula Campaign and the importance of seizing Norfolk Portsmouth and the Gosport Navy Yard For five days the president spent time on sea and land studied maps spoke with military leaders suggested actions and issued direct orders to subordinate commanders He helped set in motion many events including the naval bombardment of a Confederate fort the sailing of Union ships up the James River toward the enemy capital an amphibious landing of Union soldiers followed by an overland march that expedited the capture of Norfolk Portsmouth and the navy yard and the destruction of the Rebel ironclad CSS Virginia The president returned to Washington in triumph with some urging him to assume direct command of the nation's field armies The week discussed in Lincoln Takes Command has never been as heavily researched or told in such fine detail The successes that crowned Lincoln's short time in Hampton Roads offered him a better understanding of and more confidence in his ability to see what needed to be accomplished. This insight helped sustain him through the rest of the Lincoln's Northern Nemesis Martin Gottlieb, 2021-09-08 Clement Vallandigham an Ohio opponent of the Civil War war

and of abolition was thrown out of the country by Abraham Lincoln because of his political views As a result of his banishment Vallandigham became a martyr to his cause and was nominated for governor by the Democratic Party in 1863 He ran the race from exile The stakes in this colorful campaign were enormous and Lincoln was highly involved worrying that a Vallandigham victory would be seen as a rejection of the war by voters That could have been devastating to the Union cause It also would likely have made Vallandigham a former congressman from Dayton a presidential prospect This book tells the story of a unique event in American history a president significantly Lincoln banishing a leading opponent with that opponent then being nominated by a major party for high office in an important state 'Tis Not Our War Paul Taylor, 2024-06-18 James McPherson's classic book For Cause Comrades explained why men fought in the Civil War and spurred countless other historians to ask and attempt to answer the same question But few have explored why men did not fight That's the question Paul Taylor answers in this groundbreaking Civil War history that examines the reasons why at least 60 percent of service eligible men in the North chose not to serve and why to some extent their communities allowed them to do so Did these other men not feel the same patriotic impulses as their fellow citizens who rushed to the enlistment office Did they not believe in the sanctity of the Union Was freeing men held in chains under chattel slavery not a righteous moral crusade And why did some soldiers come to regret their enlistment and try to leave the military Tis Not Our War answers these questions by focusing on the thoughts opinions and beliefs of average civilians and soldiers Taylor digs deep into primary sources newspapers diaries letters archival manuscripts military reports and published memoirs to paint a vivid and richly complex portrait of men who questioned military service in the Civil War and to show that the North was never as unified in support of the war as portrayed in much of America's collective memory This book adds to our understanding of the Civil War and the men who fought and did not fight in it The A to Z of the Civil War and Reconstruction William L. Richter, 2009-07-24 The importance of the Civil War and Reconstruction in the history of the United States cannot be overstated There was a very real possibility that the union could have been sundered resulting in a very different American history and probably world history But the union was held together by tough and determined leaders and by the economic muscle of the North Following the end of the war the period of American history known as Reconstruction followed This was a period construed in many different ways While the states were once again united many of the postwar efforts divided different segments of the population and failed to achieve their goals in an era too often remembered for carpetbaggers and scalawags and Congressional imbroglios and incompetent government This one volume dictionary with more than 800 entries covering the significant events persons politics and economic and social themes in the U S Civil War and Reconstruction is a research tool for all levels of readers from high school and up The extensive chronology introductory essay dictionary entries and comprehensive bibliography introduce and lead the reader through the military and non military actions of one of the most Stanton Walter Stahr, 2018-08-28 New York Times bestselling author Walter Stahr tells pivotal events in American history

the story of Edwin Stanton who served as Secretary of War in Abraham Lincoln's cabinet This exhaustively researched well paced book should take its place as the new standard biography of the ill tempered man who helped to save the Union It is fair judicious authoritative and comprehensive The Wall Street Journal Of the crucial men close to President Lincoln Secretary of War Edwin Stanton 1814 1869 was the most powerful and controversial Stanton raised armed and supervised the army of a million men who won the Civil War He directed military movements He arrested and imprisoned thousands for war crimes such as resisting the draft or calling for an armistice Stanton was so controversial that some accused him at that time of complicity in Lincoln's assassination He was a stubborn genius who was both reviled and revered in his time Stanton was a Democrat before the war and a prominent trial lawyer He opposed slavery but only in private He served briefly as President Buchanan's Attorney General and then as Lincoln's aggressive Secretary of War On the night of April 14 1865 Stanton rushed to Lincoln's deathbed and took over the government since Secretary of State William Seward had been critically wounded the same evening He informed the nation of the President's death summoned General Grant to protect the Capitol and started collecting the evidence from those who had been with the Lincolns at the theater in order to prepare a murder trial Now Walter Stahr's highly recommended Library Journal starred review essential book is the first major account of Stanton in fifty years restoring this underexplored figure to his proper place in American history A lively lucid and opinionated history Kirkus Reviews starred review The Second Manassas Campaign Caroline E. Janney, Kathryn J. Shively, 2025-04-01 Waged from June 26 to September 1 1862 the Second Manassas campaign pitted the US Armies of Virginia and the Potomac against the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia and its new commander Robert E Lee The campaign unfolded against a backdrop of momentous US political decisions regarding confiscation emancipation and Confederate civilians These decisions dismayed and energized Confederates sparking the debut of Lee's offensive strategy Weeks of strategic movements were punctuated by savage fighting that culminated in a climactic battle on August 28 30 Second Manassas destroyed the careers of US army commander John Pope and corps commander Fitz John Porter Despite the dramatic impact of the campaign it is often forgotten in the larger history of the Civil War and sorely understudied The essays in this volume provide valuable attention to strategy tactics and logistics the performances of key commanders on each side the campaign's political dimensions the connections between home front and battlefield and the memory of the campaign's aftermath Contributors include Keith S Bohannon Gary W Gallagher John J Hennessy Peter C Luebke James Marten William Marvel and Cecily Zander Congress at War Fergus M. Bordewich, 2021-01-05 The story of how Congress helped win the Civil War a new perspective that puts the House and Senate rather than Lincoln at the center of the conflict This brilliantly argued new perspective on the Civil War overturns the popular conception that Abraham Lincoln single handedly led the Union to victory and gives us a vivid account of the essential role Congress played in winning the war Building a riveting narrative around four influential members of Congress Thaddeus Stevens Pitt Fessenden Ben Wade and

the proslavery Clement Vallandigham Fergus Bordewich shows us how a newly empowered Republican party shaped one of the most dynamic and consequential periods in American history From reinventing the nation s financial system to pushing President Lincoln to emancipate the slaves to the planning for Reconstruction Congress undertook drastic measures to defeat the Confederacy in the process laying the foundation for a strong central government that came fully into being in the twentieth century Brimming with drama and outsize characters Congress at War is also one of the most original books about Conflict of Command George C. the Civil War to appear in years and will change the way we understand the conflict Rable, 2023-08-30 Winner of the Barondess Lincoln Award Winner of the Austin Civil War Round Table Book Prize Finalist for the American Battlefield Trust Book Prize The fraught relationship between Abraham Lincoln and George McClellan is well known so much so that many scholars rarely question the standard narrative casting the two as foils with the Great Emancipator inevitably coming out on top over his supposedly feckless commander In Conflict of Command acclaimed Civil War historian George C Rable rethinks that stance providing a new understanding of the interaction between the president and his leading wartime general by reinterpreting the political aspects of their partnership Rable pays considerable attention to Lincoln's cabinet Congress and newspaper editorials revealing the role each played in shaping the dealings between the two men While he surveys McClellan's military campaigns as commander of the Army of the Potomac Rable focuses on the political fallout of the fighting rather than the tactical details This broadly conceived approach highlights the army officers and enlisted men who emerged as citizen soldiers and political actors Most accounts of the Lincoln McClellan feud solely examine one of the two individuals and the vast majority adopt a steadfast pro Lincoln position Taking a more neutral view Rable deftly shows how the relationship between the two developed in a political context and ultimately failed spectacularly profoundly altering the course of the Civil War itself

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Lincolns Autocrat The Life Of Edwin Stanton Civil War America Introduction

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