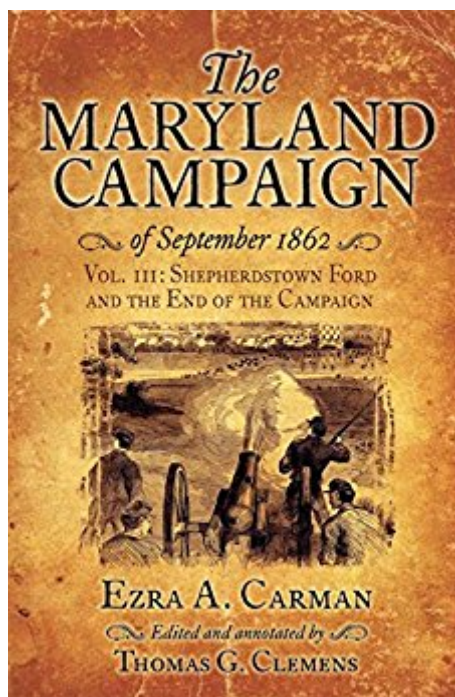




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The Maryland Campaign Of September 1862: Volume III: The Battle Of Shepherdstown And The End Of The Campaign: 3



Synopsis

The Battle of Shepherdstown and the End of the Campaign is the third and final volume of Ezra Carman's magisterial The Maryland Campaign of September 1862. As bloody and horrific as the battle of Antietam was, historian Ezra Carman—who penned a 1,800-page manuscript on the Maryland campaign—did not believe it was the decisive battle of the campaign. Generals Robert E. Lee and George B. McClellan intended to continue fighting after Sharpsburg, but the battle of Shepherdstown Ford (September 19 and 20) forced them to abandon their goals and end the campaign. Carman was one of the few who gave this smaller engagement its due importance, detailing the disaster that befell the 118th Pennsylvania Infantry and Maj. Gen. A. P. Hill's success in repulsing the Union advance, and the often overlooked foray of Jeb Stuart's cavalry to seize the Potomac River ford at Williamsport. Carman also added a statistical study of the casualties in the various battles of the entire Maryland Campaign, and covered Lincoln's decision to relieve McClellan of command on November 7. He also explored the relations between President Lincoln and General McClellan before and after the Maryland Campaign, which he appended to his original manuscript. The "before" section, a thorough examination of the controversy about McClellan's role in the aftermath of Second Manassas campaign, will surprise some and discomfort others, and includes an interesting narrative about McClellan's reluctance to commit General Franklin's corps to aid Maj. Gen. John Pope's army at Manassas. Carman concludes with an executive summary of the entire campaign. Dr. Clemens concludes Carman's invaluable narrative with a bibliographical dictionary (and genealogical goldmine) of the soldiers, politicians, and diplomats who had an impact on shaping Carman's manuscript. While many names will be familiar to readers, others upon whom Carman relied for creating his campaign narrative are as obscure to us today as they were during the war. The Maryland Campaign of September 1862, Vol. III: The Battle of Shepherdstown and the End of the Campaign, concludes the most comprehensive and detailed account of the campaign ever produced. Jammed with firsthand accounts, personal anecdotes, detailed footnotes, maps, and photos, this long-awaited study will be appreciated as Civil War history at its finest.

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Customer Reviews

Shepherdstown Ford and the End of the Campaign is the third and final outstanding and informative work of Ezra Carman. It is a masterpiece of historical writing. "The Maryland Campaign of September 1862" is a masterpiece of historical writing. Students will enjoy reading this title which shows that the battle of Antietam or Sharpsburg did not end this most important clash in this Confederate movement. General Robert E. Lee led his troops back to Virginia after the draw in Maryland but intended to return at Williamsport. While Union General George McClellan intended to follow the Army of Northern Virginia into Virginia, the fight at Shepherdstown changed both commanders' plans. In the end, the author successfully portrays the commanding General of The Army of Potomac resolution in fighting Confederate forces as well as his beliefs in his accomplishments that lived up to his goals. This wonderful study starts with a chapter on the fighting at Boteler's Ford which ended the Maryland Campaign. The writer provides enthusiasts with a chapter reviewing the casualties and results of the entire time that Lee moved into Maryland. Interesting analysis is made concerning the interaction between McClellan, President Lincoln and Harry Halleck and why ultimately Lincoln replaced the commander on November 7th. Solid evidence is provided that shows how Union Generals Halleck, McClellan and Pope did not always work together with the best interest of President Lincoln and their soldiers. Carman demonstrates the failure of Generals Porter and Franklin to act in conjunction

with the orders of their commanding general at the battle of Second Bull Run which contributed to the beating that Northern forces took from the Confederates. The non-traditional viewpoint of McClellan and his assistance or lack of to Pope in the battle of Second Bull Run will have many scholars revisiting their beliefs and ideas. This treatment provides readers with information on over 1,500 individuals who help make this an interesting and informative final study. Clemens; an expert on this campaign, provides corrections to the first two volumes that scholars will find most helpful during research of the topic. The editor was helped in his efforts to complete this important text by Ethan Rafuse; Ted Alexander; Eric Wittenberg; Carol Reardon; Susannah; and Stephanie Gray. Savas Beatie provides Civil War buffs with three appendices, a bibliography and an index in this recently published book. This 336 page edition has four helpful maps produced by Gene Thorp which adds to the experience of understanding this important topic. Savas Beatie has produced a most useful manuscript that will enable all students of this campaign to gain a great deal of insight and benefit from the read. With impeccable research, uncomplicated readability, and flowing chronicle, the thrust of this tapestry reflects the author's deep knowledge. Carmen and Clemens provide an even handed and balanced appraisal that paints the topic in a new light. After reading this outstanding tome edited by the highly respected Tom Clemens, I intend to purchase the hard cover editions of Volume 1 and Volume 2. This reviewer recommends the purchase of this narrative which should be added to the knapsacks of all enthusiast and trampers.

Ezra A. Carman's *The Maryland Campaign* has already proven itself to be the pinnacle of primary sources when it comes to the autumn of 1862. After the first two volume publication, the third volume was not even existent in my mind; it was happy with the two. But when I heard that the third volume was coming, helmed by the excellent work of Thomas G. Clemens, I was ready for the conclusion of the series. But this third volume is not just the excellent conclusion to the work at hand, it also contains the errata and extensive notes Mr. Clemens has put into this. In the end, we have an excellent completed work which needs to grace the shelves of all Civil War readers alike. Ezra Ayres Carman was educated at the Western Military Academy in Kentucky and hailed from New Jersey. During the American Civil War, he fought with many New Jersey units and organizations and was appointed to the Antietam National Cemetery Board of Trustees after the war. Later in life, he was appointed to the Antietam Battlefield Board in 1894. Thomas G. Clemens, editor and annotator, gained his doctorate at George Mason University. He has published many magazine articles, book reviews, and is a licensed guide at Antietam National Battlefield. He is a retired professor from Hagerstown Community College and is

one of the founders of the Save Historic Antietam Foundation Inc. The third volume of The Maryland Campaign: Shepherdstown Ford and the End of the Campaign, ends the account of the campaign as a whole not only on the military level, but on the political sphere as well before the campaign begins. Not only does Carman handle this subject masterfully, but Clemens offers incredible annotations throughout the text. I appreciate the accounts of Shepherdstown Ford from Carman as many authors I have read from the Civil War period usually end their accounts with the final shots of the major battle. Here, we have the aftermath. The chapter on the results of the campaign, mainly focusing on the losses, was fascinating as well. One of the most interesting chapters of the book was the one about Lincoln, Halleck, and McClellan. Mainly, the interesting part comes in the form that the chapter deals with events before the Maryland Campaign even begins. To see the political dealings before the campaign's beginning was fascinating and one of the points which many Antietam books seem to gloss over. While this book is considerably shorter than its predecessors, it does not skimp on the informative narrative. This is a well done tie off to the series. I highly recommend this book to anyone interested in the Civil War. Even though it focuses on the Maryland Campaign, this is a primary source which should be in the homes of any Civil War reader. It is one of the books which shows not only the excellent of the primary source, but the painstaking research of the editor which helmed the project. Mr. Clemens should be applauded for the work he put into these works; he should know that it will be greatly appreciated in the years to come. Matthew Bartlett

The Maryland Campaign of September 1862, Volume III: Shepherdstown Ford and the End of the Campaign is the third and final volume of an in-depth analysis of the Maryland Campaign (also known as the Antietam Campaign) of the American Civil War. Originally authored by Union army officer Ezra Carman (1834-1909), the trilogy has been painstakingly edited by Thomas Clemens, and enriched with the additions of bibliographical and genealogical reference material, a statistical study of casualties, a scholarly analysis of Lincoln's decision to relieve General McClellan of his command, Clemens' executive summary of the entire campaign, and much more. All three volumes of this invaluable primary testimony are highly recommended for public and college library collections. The first two volumes are The Maryland Campaign of September 1862: Volume 1, South Mountain and The Maryland Campaign of September 1862. Volume II: Antietam.- Midwest Book Review (Note: This review was written by Midwest Book Review and posted on at their request)

The first two volumes of this trilogy are so good that I wondered if the third volume could live up to their reputation. Fortunately, it Tim Clemens has done scholars a great service by publishing "the Maryland campaign" by Ezra Carman. Carman was a great historian but he was not known to the general public. For years his manuscript languished in the Carman papers at the library of Congress. It took Tom to collect the manuscript, edit, and publish it with Ted Savas. If you're interested in the Civil War in the east or the battle of Antietam, buy this book immediately!

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