

Civil War Settlers

Civil War Settlers is the first comprehensive analysis of Scandinavian Americans and their participation in the US Civil War. Based on thousands of sources in multiple languages, Anders Bo Rasmussen brings the untold story of Scandinavian American immigrants to life by focusing on their lived community experience and positioning it within the larger context of western settler colonialism. Associating American citizenship with liberty and equality, Scandinavian immigrants openly opposed slavery and were among the most enthusiastic foreign-born supporters of the early Republican Party. However, the malleable concept of citizenship was used by immigrants to resist draft service, and support a white man's republic through territorial expansion on American Indian land and, in part, into the Caribbean. Consequently, Scandinavian immigrants after emancipation proved to be reactionary Republicans, not abolitionists. This unique approach to the Civil War sheds new light on how whiteness and access to territory formed an integral part of American immigration history. This title is also available as Open Access on Cambridge Core.

Anders Bo Rasmussen is Associate Professor of American History at the University of Southern Denmark. He is the recipient of the Carlsberg Foundation Monograph Fellowship, a former Fulbright scholar at New York University, and has explored the Scandinavian Civil War experience across the United States for more than a decade.



FIGURE 0.1 Norwegian-born artist Ole Balling's most famous painting "Grant and His Generals" from 1865. Photo by National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution via Getty Images.

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*Scandinavians, Citizenship, and American Empire,
1848–1870*

ANDERS BO RASMUSSEN
University of Southern Denmark



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Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>page</i> vii
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	x
Introduction: The Problem and the Method	i
PART I SETTLERS	
1 1848	21
2 Exodus	31
3 Old and New World Liberty	45
4 Republican Reign	61
PART II CITIZENS	
5 For God and Country	101
6 Colonization and Colonialism	130
7 Duties of Citizenship	171
8 A Rich Man's War	198
9 Echoes of Emancipation	214
PART III COLONIALISTS	
10 Lincoln's American Empire	253
11 The Principle of Equality	262

12	Shades of Citizenship	280
13	Dollars and Dominion	300
	Conclusion	328
	<i>Bibliography</i>	332
	<i>Index</i>	354

Figures

0.1 Ole Balling's painting <i>Grant and His Generals</i> from 1865	<i>page</i> ii
1.1 French depictions of abolition in the West Indies by François-Auguste Biard, 1849	22
1.2 An 1848 portrait of <i>North Star</i> editor Frederick Douglass	24
2.1 Claus L. Clausen photographed on the island of Langeland after the Civil War	32
4.1 Fritz Rasmussen emigrated with his family to Wisconsin in 1847 and eventually settled in New Denmark	63
4.2 Hans Heg's leadership ability and political savvy earned him the position of colonel when the Civil War broke out	72
4.3 Henry Ward Beecher photographed with his famous sister Harriet after the Civil War	74
4.4 Editor of <i>Emigranten</i> , Carl Fredrik Solberg	81
4.5 Editor of <i>Hemlandet</i> Tuve N. Hasselquist	90
5.1 Christian Christensen photographed in New York early in the war	102
5.2 Drawing by Ole Balling depicting Federal troops engaging with a blockade runner near Fort Monroe in September 1861	106
5.3 Self-portrait of painter and officer Ole Balling after the Civil War	107
5.4 The Scandinavian Regiment's battle flag with the inscription "For Gud og Vort Land" (For God and Our Country)	126
6.1 Illustration of Waldemar Raaslöff, the Danish government's representative in Washington D.C, 1866	131
6.2 A 1928 photo of the Redfox family with Reverend Mathias B. Ordahl	155

6.3	Count Edward Piper, sitting on the far left, is pictured with fellow diplomats at Trenton Falls, New York, in 1863	165
7.1	A page from the Scandinavian-American newspaper <i>Emigranten</i> in 1863	181
8.1	Painting of the Union Navy's attack on Fort Jackson and Fort St. Philip on April 24, 1862	204
9.1	Photos of Ferdinand and Wilhemina Winsl�w along with Hans and Gunild Heg	216
9.2	Major-General Samuel Curtis and staff photographed in St. Louis in late 1861 or early 1862	219
9.3	A photographic print from the 1863 cartoon series "Beauties in the Draft"	231
9.4	Portrait of Hans Heg by Herbj�rn Gausta, ca. 1915	234
9.5	Ferdinand Winsl�w with his brother-in-law Christian Christensen in New Orleans, 1865	247
10.1	Photo of the mill at Dybb�l that came to symbolize the 1864 war against Prussia and Austria for generations of Danes	257
11.1	Illustration of Hans Mattson who became one of the best-known Swedish-American politicians after the Civil War	264
11.2	Photograph of Fritz Rasmussen after the Civil War	277
12.1	Ulysses S. Grant in the trenches before Vicksburg in 1863 Painting by Ole Balling in 1865	285
12.2	Photo of anti-slavery preacher and chaplain Claus Clausen	291
12.3	Photo of the "Norsk Hotel" (Norwegian Hotel) in Decorah, Iowa	294
13.1	Pastor Eric Norelius, photographed with his wife Inga in 1855	312

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xi

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xiii

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- Douma, Michael J., Anders Bo Rasmussen, and Robert O. Faith. “The Impressment of Foreign-Born Soldiers in the Union Army.” *Journal of American Ethnic History* 38, no. 3 (2019): 76–106.
- Rasmussen, Anders Bo. “The Spoils of the Victors: Captain Ferdinand Winslow and the 1863 Curtis Court of Inquiry.” *Annals of Iowa* 76, no. 2 (2017): 161–179.
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