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.

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Why Confederates Fought: Family and Nation in Civil War Virginia,
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several books.
The Cambridge History of the American Civil War provides the most comprehensive analysis to date of the American Civil War. With contributions from over seventy-five leading historians of the Civil War, the three-volume reference work investigates the full range of human experiences and outcomes in this most transformative moment in American and global history. Volume I is organized around military affairs, assessing major battles and campaigns of the conflict. Volume II explores political and social affairs, conveying the experiences of millions of Americans who lived outside the major campaign zones in both the North and South. Volume III examines cultural and intellectual affairs, considering how the war’s duration, scale, and intensity drove Americans to question how they understood themselves as people. The volumes conclude with an assessment of the legacies of the Civil War, demonstrating that the war’s impact on American life shaped the country in the decades long after the end of the war.

VOLUME I
Military Affairs
EDITED BY AARON SHEEHAN-DEAN

VOLUME II
Affairs of the State
EDITED BY AARON SHEEHAN-DEAN

VOLUME III
Affairs of the People
EDITED BY AARON SHEEHAN-DEAN
THE CAMBRIDGE
HISTORY OF
THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR

VOLUME II
Affairs of the State

Edited by
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Note on the Text

In nearly all cases in these volumes, military officers are identified with the highest rank they earned during the war. In addition, all spelling, punctuation, and varying forms of emphasis in quotations from primary sources are in the originals.