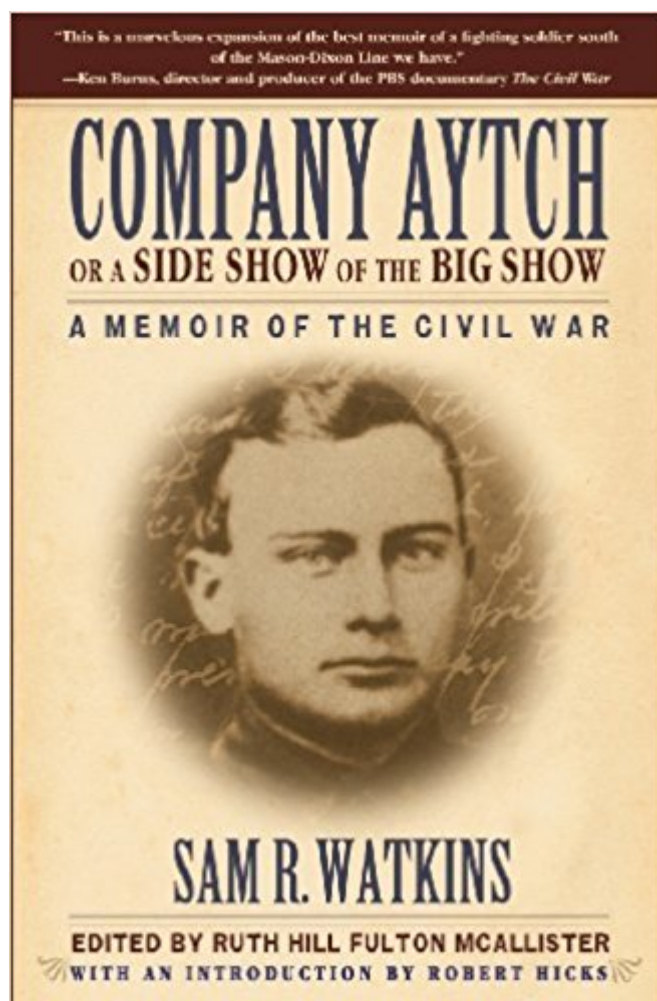


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Company Aytch Or A Side Show Of The Big Show: A Memoir Of The Civil War



Synopsis

In celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War: The definitive Civil War classic as Sam wanted it revised complete with his edits, new perspectives, authoritative text, and images of his changes. Company Aytch has reigned as one of the most memorable and honest depictions of the American Civil War since its original publication in 1882. Sam R. Watkins's firsthand account of life as a Confederate soldier eloquently captured the realities of war, the humor and pathos of soldiering, and the tragic, historic events in which he participated. Although there have been other versions of Company Aytch published, this is the first with new material and revisions by Sam Watkins himself. Featuring over forty images, including his own pencil-marked edits, this volume combines the ageless text with Sam's intended revisions a treasure for lovers of history, academia, and Civil War enthusiasts alike.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"This is a marvelous expansion of the best memoir of a fighting soldier south of the Mason-Dixon Line we have." Ken Burns, producer of the PBS documentary The Civil War "All of us have something to celebrate in this edition of Company Aytch with Sam's own revisions." Robert Hicks, author, The Widow of the South "Long considered indispensable reading for any Civil War buff, the book's droll candor and sense of irony provide an unforgettable glimpse into the experience of both the drudgery and the extraordinary of the average Civil War soldier." The History Channel's [Daily](#)

History “Watkins’s revision and additions enhance and refine his story. Some of them are pointed, others hilarious, but they all add depth to one of the must-read soldier narratives.”

• William C. Davis, Director of the Virginia Center for Civil War Studies at Virginia Tech

“Historians, documentarians, and novelists—from Ken Burns to Margaret Mitchell—all rely, for Civil War period detail, on the text of *Company Aytch* . . . this edition, revised according to Watkins’s notes from the 1890s, includes many corrections and additions and should be considered the definitive text of the book.”

• Ralph Bowden, Chapter 16

“When it comes to books about the Civil War, many people agree wholeheartedly, *Company Aytch* is the best ever written.”

• GenealogyBlog

“The Civil War memoir of Sam Watkins, veteran of every hard-fought battle of Company H, First Tennessee Volunteer Infantry, remains the premier source of the private’s view of that colossal struggle. . . . This volume is an updated, well-edited—by his great-granddaughter—republication of Watkins’s original 1882 work. . . . No serious student of the Civil War should be without a copy.”

• Roanoke Times

SAMUEL R. WATKINS (1839–1901) was born in 1839 near Columbia, Tennessee. He enlisted into the First Tennessee Infantry, Company H at the beginning of the Civil War. Upon surrender, Watkins was one out of only seven men remaining from the 120 originally listed in his regiment. Encouraged by friends and family, Watkins first published his memories as a newspaper series and then finally in book form in 1882. His great-granddaughter RUTH HILL FULTON McALLISTER earned a bachelor’s degree in History from Vanderbilt University, and lives in Columbia, Tennessee. ROBERT HICKS is the New York Times bestselling author of *The Widow of the South* and *A Separate Country: A Story of Redemption in the Aftermath of the Civil War*. He lives near Leiper’s Fork, Tennessee.

It was quite interesting. I had a chance to buy this product several years ago but didn’t. Of course, as life goes, within a few days I regreted not buying and tried again to purchase it, but it was gone. Skip forward a couple of decades, and I had a chance to buy the Kindle version from . Oh happy days!! As described by the author, this is an amateur work, and comes across as such. Knowing that, I was completely happy with the ‘book’. You get the ‘feel’ of being there with his descriptions of the life and battles he was involved in. You get to know some of the officers through his descriptions of them and feel you know them. All in all, I would recommend this ‘book’ to anyone that likes Civil War history. I am quite pleased with this. Steve

Wonderful and classic memoir about the Civil War from a self described "private soldier". Fans of Ken Burns's classic Civil War documentary will fondly remember excerpts from the salty memoir by confederate Sam Watkins. Watkins purposefully keeps his book on the level of the regular soldier, not relating any specific historical information about the conflict, but more about the everyday life of a common soldier and his impressions of combat. At times lyrical and intelligent, it also has the stolid humor and language of a country boy from Tennessee. This particular edition is worth the price since it includes material that Watkins intended to add in future editions of his book. Great reading for any Civil War buff!

I like the books that are about the people themselves.

I read a lot of Civil War literature and this is essential to any enthusiast. It's an incredibly honest grass roots account of the fellow's experience. Although not very well written, I could easily overlook that because of its frank and at times graphic depiction of the grueling life of a Confederate.

The best way to learn about the war is by reading what the soldiers had to say. I quickly felt like I actually knew Sam. I highly recommend his book!

All of the other books that I've read about the Civil War, from the people that were there were written by the ranking officers. This was written by a mud rolling grunt and the different perspective is very refreshing.

Recommended for any Civil War buff. And for anyone who has avoided history.

This guy. This guy Sam. If you ever needed a friend that can tell a story, Sam Watkins is your man.

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