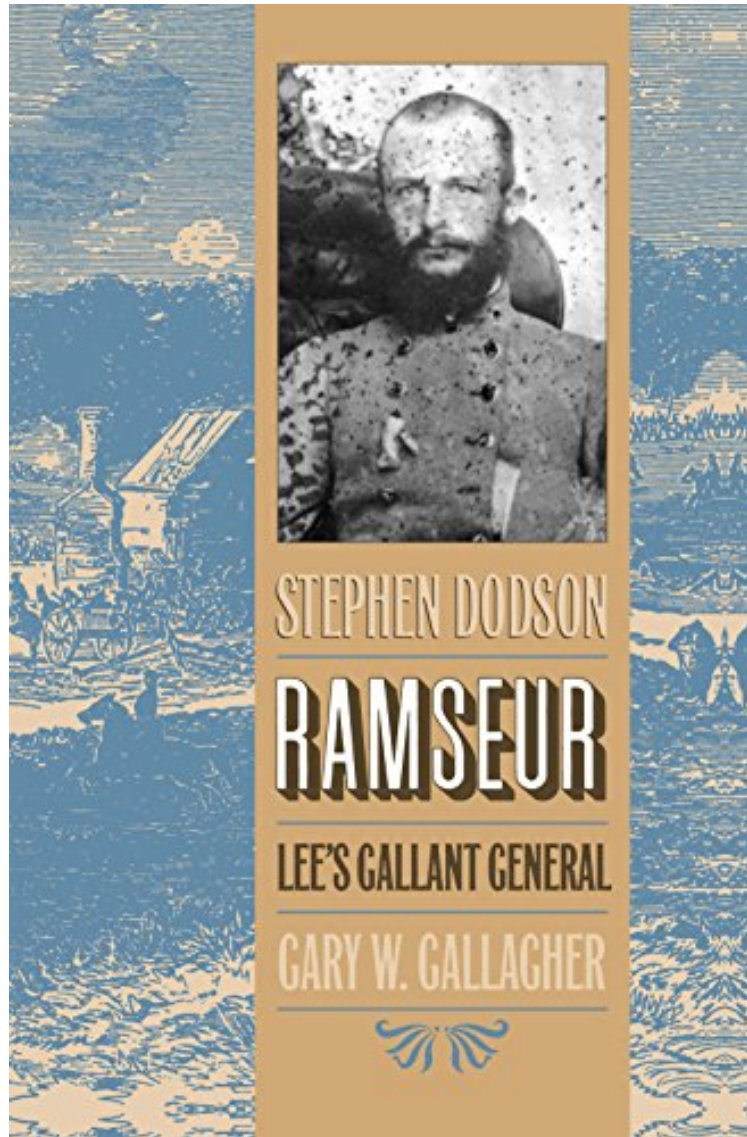


[Pdf free] Stephen Dodson Ramseur: Lee's Gallant General

Stephen Dodson Ramseur: Lee's Gallant General

Gary W. Gallagher

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Gary W. Gallagher : Stephen Dodson Ramseur: Lee's Gallant General before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Stephen Dodson Ramseur: Lee's Gallant General:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Intrepid and impetuous: Lee's gallant RamseurBy Jonathan WellerStephen Dodson Ramseur: Lee's Gallant General, by Gary Gallagher, is the most encompassing and complete biography on one of the South's most competent generals. However, most notably, the book showcases that men like Stephen D. Ramseur were young and ambitious, and were often willing to expose themselves to danger to win acclaim

and praise. Like many Civil War officers Ramseur ascended the ranks quickly by way of attrition and skill alike, both of which are showcased in grand design in this particular work. I am fairly positive that there is not another book that will offer the in-depth look at Ramseur's life—both personal and militarily speaking, and it's all delivered in Gallagher's traditional free-flowing and easy to read style of writing. Gallagher's book on Stephen Dodson Ramseur begins with the general's birth in Lincolnton, North Carolina, in 1837, and runs all the way through Ramseur's death at Cedar Creek in 1864. The book provides a detailed look at Ramseur's adolescence and pre-war education at Davidson University in North Carolina, but quickly shows that the man was already entertaining thoughts about a military career at a young age. Gallagher then covers Ramseur's career at West Point and his time in the "old army," while explaining a burgeoning aggressive streak that would serve the general well in the coming years. When the young Confederacy was being formed, but before North Carolina seceded from the Union, Ramseur offered his services to the cause and was commissioned an officer of artillery. Soon, however, the need for experienced infantry officers outweighed the need for artillerists and Ramseur was given command of the 3rd regiment of North Carolina infantry. Ramseur would go on to compile a fairly solid record as a brigadier and then major general in the Army of Northern Virginia, but his time in command was not without its downsides. Several times, and probably most specifically at Gettysburg, Ramseur's leadership and ability came into question by scholars. Though Ramseur launched the final assault that broke the Union back at Oak Ridge and Hill, many accuse Ramseur of being too lackadaisical in the subsequent parts of the battle. I feel as though Gallagher's book acquits the general well, and fairly objectively, but it does show that Ramseur was not perfect in any way. The book then winds its way through the following campaigns of the Army of Northern Virginia and its attempts to win southern independence, and quite nicely incorporates personal letters and accounts of Ramseur in conveying this story. Ramseur was then commissioned a major general the day after his twenty-seventh birthday, becoming the youngest West Pointer to achieve that rank in the Confederate army. He displayed charisma and intrepidity on fields like Spotsylvania (his shining achievement in my own opinion) and Cedar Creek, and showed amazing skill as a divisional leader until his death in the 1864 Shenandoah Valley campaign. This loss, again, deprived Robert E. Lee of another qualified and distinguished military leader late in the war. It was through losses such as Ramseur that hopes of a Confederate victory were dashed in late 1864. I have always been a Stephen D. Ramseur fan and felt that he has often been overlooked for his abilities and contributions to the South during the Civil War. While already a fan of the general and his bravery, Gary Gallagher's book made me an even bigger admirer of Ramseur. I recommend the work highly for all fans of the Civil War, but reading the letters that Ramseur wrote to his wife and friends brought a very human element to a conflict that I believe is so often forgotten in Civil War writings. Overall just a great read and interesting addition to any Civil War fan's collection. 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Joseph Kennedy Wonderful book on a courageous, noble man! 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Thanks to Gary Gallagher's brilliant accounts of Civil War history By Preston Thanks to Gary Gallagher's brilliant accounts of Civil War history, the shape of the tragedy and glory of our great struggles comes alive.

Stephen Dodson Ramseur, born in Lincolnton, North Carolina, in 1837, compiled an enviable record as a brigadier in the Army of Northern Virginia. Commissioned major general the day after his twenty-seventh birthday, he was the youngest West Pointer to achieve that rank in the Confederate army. He later showed great skill as a divisional leader in the 1864 Shenandoah Valley campaigns before he was fatally wounded at Cedar Creek on 19 October of that year. Based on Ramseur's extensive personal papers as well as on other sources, this absorbing biography examines the life of one of the South's most talented commanders and brings into sharper focus some of the crosscurrents of this turbulent period.

A model biography. "Blue and Gray" A model biography. . . . An impressive bibliography attests to Gallagher's thorough and impeccable research and offers Civil War enthusiasts significant sources of untapped information. . . . Gallagher's balanced and enlightening treatise is a deserving tribute to one of Lee's most gallant warriors.--Blue and Gray From the Back Cover Stephen Dodson Ramseur, born in Lincolnton, North Carolina, in 1837, compiled an enviable record as a brigadier in the Army of Northern Virginia. Commissioned major general the day after his twenty-seventh birthday, he was the youngest West Pointer to achieve that rank in the Confederate army. He later showed great skill as a divisional leader in the 1864 Shenandoah Valley campaigns before he was fatally wounded at Cedar Creek on 19 October of that year. Based on Ramseur's extensive personal papers and on other sources, this absorbing biography examines the life of one of the South's most talented commanders and brings into sharper focus some of the crosscurrents of this turbulent period.