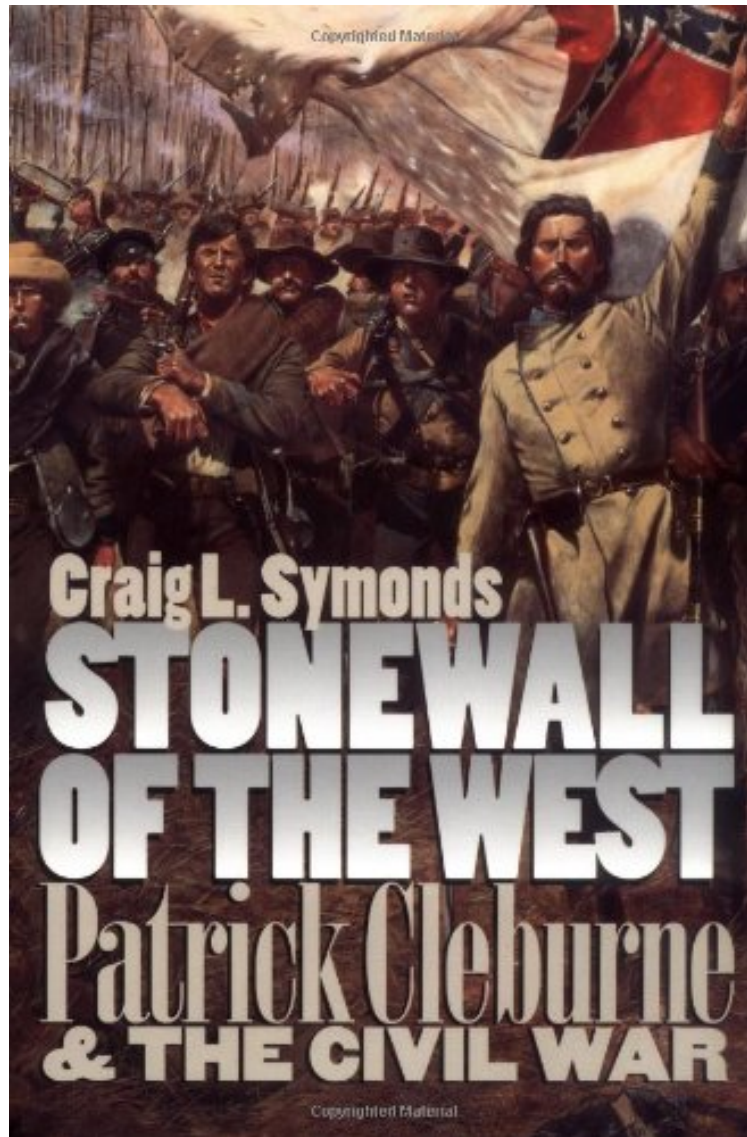


(Download pdf) Stonewall of the West: Patrick Cleburne and the Civil War (Modern War Studies (Paperback))

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Craig L. Symonds

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Craig L. Symonds : Stonewall of the West: Patrick Cleburne and the Civil War (Modern War Studies (Paperback)) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Stonewall of the West: Patrick Cleburne and the Civil War (Modern War Studies (Paperback)):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A very interesting and honorable manBy eclecticmnVery interesting bio, from childhood in Ireland to his death at Franklin. The battles were described in detail, which I enjoyed.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent BookBy Charles M. LambEveryone should read this book that has any fascination with Lincoln's War.I personally highly regard Patrick Cleburne. People should study him as a moral example of how to live their lives.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent book on one of the great Confederate generalsBy KepperExcellent book on one of the great Confederate generals. Detailed accounts of his life and times before and during the war. His death at Franklin was so unnecessary and it underlined his conviction to fight and die with his men. A true American hero.

To Jefferson Davis, he was the "Stonewall of the West"; to Robert E. Lee, he was "a meteor shining from a clouded sky"; and to Braxton Bragg, he was an officer "ever alive to a success." He was Patrick Ronayne Cleburne, one of the greatest of all Confederate field commanders. An Irishman by birth, Cleburne emigrated to the United States in 1849 at the age of 21. He achieved only modest success in the peacetime South, but rose rapidly in the wartime army to become the Confederacy's finest division commander. He was admired by peers and subordinates alike for his leadership, loyalty, honesty, and fearlessness in the face of enemy fire. The valor of his command was so inspirational that his unit alone was allowed to carry its own distinctive battle flag. In *Stonewall of the West*, Craig Symonds offers the first full-scale critical biography of this compelling figure. He explores all the sources of Cleburne's commitment to the Southern cause, his growth as a combat leader from Shiloh to Chickamauga, and his emergence as one of the Confederacy's most effective field commanders at Missionary Ridge, Ringgold Gap, and Pickett's Mill. In addition, Symonds unravels the "mystery" of Spring Hill and recounts Cleburne's dramatic and untimely death (at the age of 36) at Franklin, Tennessee, where he charged the enemy line on foot after having two horses shot from under him. Symonds also explores Cleburne's role in the complicated personal politics of the Army of Tennessee, as well as his astonishing proposal that the decimated Confederate ranks be filled by ending slavery and arming blacks against the Union. Symonds' definitive and immensely readable narrative casts new light on Cleburne, on the Army of Tennessee, and on the Civil War in the West. It finally and firmly establishes Cleburne's rightful place in the pantheon of Southern military heroes.

From Library JournalBorn and raised in Ireland, Cleburne was instrumental in organizing a militia company at the beginning of the Civil War known as the Yell Rifles, which elected him their captain. Symonds (Joseph E. Johnston: A Civil War Biography, LJ 2/1/92) delves into the reasons why Cleburne joined the Southern cause and his proposal that slaves be armed to fight for the Confederacy. Much of the book examines Cleburne's growth as a combat leader, from his first major battle at Shiloh to his emergence as one of the war's more effective field commanders. The author also investigates Cleburne's relations with Generals Hardee, Bragg, Johnston, and Hood, resolves the mystery of what happened at Spring Hill, and recounts Cleburne's dramatic charge and untimely death at the Battle of Franklin. This first full-scale critical biography should be in every Civil War collection.?W. Walter Wicker, Emritus, Louisiana Tech Univ., RustonCopyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc.From Kirkus sThe heroic story of an outstanding divisional commander for the Confederacy in the Army of Tennessee. Symonds (History/US Naval Academy; Joseph E. Johnson: A Civil War Biography, 1992) combines well researched narrative history and biography with a highly readable style in exploring the life of this exceptional man. Cleburne was, as the narrative demonstrates, reliable, cool, and reserved under extreme hardship but passionate in battle. Leaving his starving homeland, Ireland, in the bitter year of 1849 after service in the British Army, Cleburne emigrated to the US and became a hard-working member of the frontier community in Helena, Ark. When the Civil War started, this accidental Southerner joined the Confederate forces and soon distinguished himself as an inspirational leader, displaying both courage and judgment. Symonds describes his gallantry in such battles as Shiloh, Chickamauga, and Kenasaw Mountain. Even though Jefferson Davis called him "the Stonewall of the West," and Robert E. Lee described him as a "meteor shining from a clouded sky," Cleburne, being foreign-born and an outspoken critic of ineffective officers (including his own commander), was often passed over for promotion. He also stirred controversy when he proposed abolishing slavery and enlisting ex-slaves in the army. Despite his disappointments, he achieved a superb record as an innovative division commander and was faithful to the Southern cause. After the capture of Atlanta, though the war had clearly been lost, the army's new commander fought on, rashly expending lives. Cleburne, though aware of the likely outcome, stayed with his troops and was killed at the Battle of Franklin at the age of 36. A fine addition to Civil War literature and a deserved tribute to a remarkable career. (20 photos, 11 maps) (History Book Club main selection) -- Copyright 1997, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved. "This is the biography that Patrick Cleburne has long deserved. Scrupulously fair in his judgments, Symonds accords Cleburne full credit for his accomplishments even as he sweeps away the romantic gloss that has clung to the general for many generations."Gary W. Gallagher, author of *The Confederate War* "Fresh and thought provoking. An inspiration to all who appreciate the highest virtue and character under extreme hardship and disadvantage."Wiley Sword, author of *The Confederacy's Last Hurrah* "The finest biography of one of the Confederacy's finest fighting generals."Albert Castel, author of *Decision in the West* "Outstanding biography, fine

battle history, and fascinating reading."Steven E. Woodworth, author of Davis and Lee at War