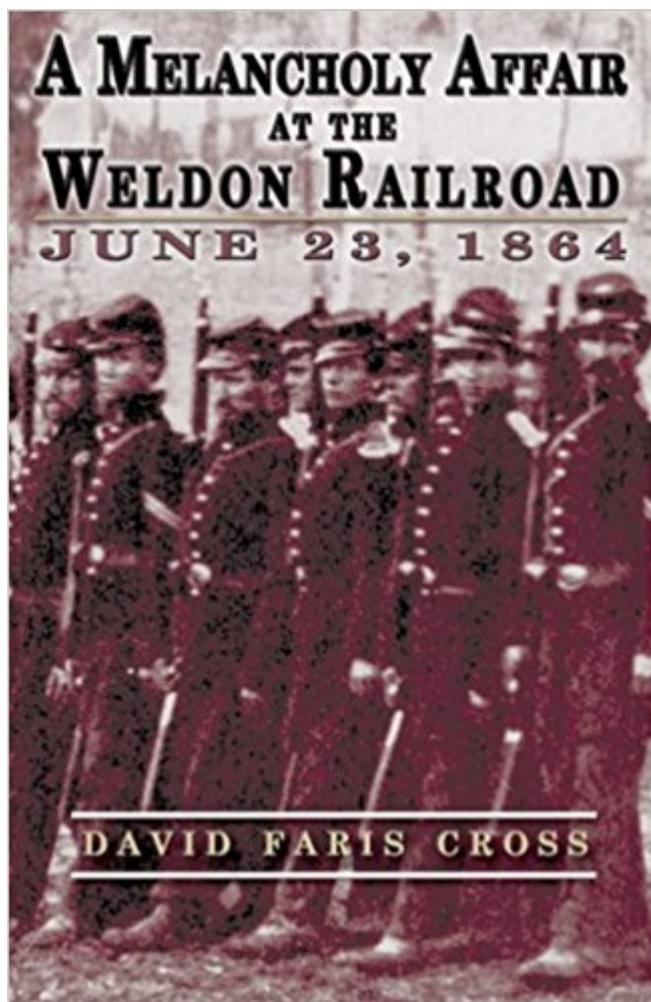


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A Melancholy Affair At The Weldon Railroad: The Vermont Brigade, June 23, 1864



Synopsis

The Vermonters' Andersonville experience is studied to understand the cause of the lethal statistics. The story of the suffering endured by the four hundred Vermonters captured at the Weldon Railroad is a tale of remarkable courage and devotion to country.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Recently, in a series of entries in my blog, <http://petersburgcampaign.blogspot.com/>, I suggested a number of strategies for we amateur historians to employ to add value to our work. One strategy I suggested was narrowing the focus of a book to the point where its author could more easily research his topic as exhaustively as the standard setter for research, Dr. Richard Sommers, researched his masterwork, *Richmond Redeemed*. An example of this strategy I gave was A Melancholy Affair at the Weldon Railroad: The Vermont Brigade, June 23, 1864, by David Faris Cross. When Dr. Crossâ™s book was published in 2003, the dust jacket contained a blurb from me: âœâ the definitive account of the Vermont Brigadeâ™s disaster on June 23, 1864â will provide a solid foundation for more general historians. The story of the vicissitudes of the Vermonters in Confederate captivity is particularly enlightening.â • I can still say the same. Dr. Crossâ™s book recounts the disaster that befell the Vermont Brigade of the Army of the Potomacâ™s VI Corps on June 23, 1864, at the hands of Maj. Gen. William Mahoneâ™s division of the Army of Northern Virginia. The book contains helpful maps of the action involved, some sketches by participants, and a frontispiece based on a U.S. Geological survey map of the contested ground. There are numerous pictures of individual soldiers, as one would expect in a

history focused on a portion of a single brigade. Dr. Cross methodically depicts the malaise that afflicted the Union command structure that day, one day after the Army of the Potomacâ™s II Corps had met with a catastrophe several times bigger at Mahoneâ™s hands. The book moves from strength to strength. After recounting the fiasco, Dr.

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