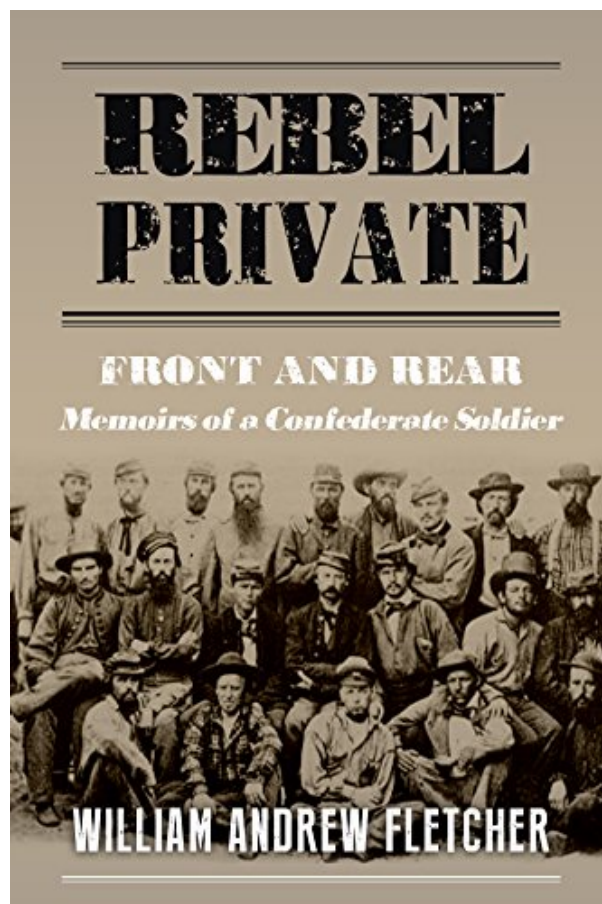


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MEMOIRS OF A CONFEDERATE SOLDIER  
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**FRONT AND REAR**  
*Memoirs of a Confederate Soldier*



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From Publishers Weekly

William Fletcher joined the Confederate Army in 1861. He served with the Army of Northern Virginia's elite Texas Brigade until the Battle of Chickamauga. Unable to march because of wounds, he transferred to the cavalry and finished the war with the Texas Rangers, then wrote his memoirs 40 years later. Most of the original copies were destroyed in a fire. The current edition presents unvarnished images of hard marches, short rations and battles in which being wounded could prove worse than being killed. Fletcher describes the horrors of being a Civil War casualty as vividly as any firsthand account from either side. The author emerges from these pages as fighting less for a cause than for his own pride in being a good soldier. His narrative does more than many learned monographs to explain the Confederacy's long endurance against overwhelming odds.

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Review

"A neat tale of suspense ... an admirable piece of Americana."

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"Gives the best account I know of.... This Confederate Soldier shows his devotion to the truth by limiting his narrative to what he saw with his own eyes."

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About the Author

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In April 1861 war was declared between the Union and the Confederacy.

When the news came it made Fletcher nervous, as he was working but didn't want to miss his chance to enlist; reaching an agreement, he began his journey the following day.

Two years later, on the third day at Gettysburg, Fletcher recalls how he became temporarily afflicted with a "bad case of cowardly horror" following the order to prepare to charge.

But Fletcher could also be a restless man and was brave to a fault, frequently seeking permission for dangerous raids or patrols in the lulls between battles.

Wounded on numerous occasions, Fletcher became incapacitated for further infantry service and was transferred to the cavalry, where he would serve for the rest of the war.

It was during this time that he was taken prisoner by Union troops, and Fletcher's account of his capture, and the formation and execution of his escape plan is worthy of a classic thriller.

With its combination of straightforward prose and unexpected philosophising, Rebel Private is an arresting account of one line soldier's experience.

William Andrew Fletcher (1839-1915) was a lumberman, scout and soldier from Louisiana. In 1856 the family moved to Texas, and five years later he enlisted in the Confederate Army. Serving throughout the Civil War, he survived and returned to Texas, where he later married and raised a family.

Praise for William A. Fletcher

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40 of 41 people found the following review helpful.

One of the best 10 first hand accounts of the war

By Steve Quick

Just as compelling as "Co.Aych", this would make an incredible movie. That is certainly one of the reasons it is found on so many bookstore shelves. It does not receive the attention it deserves because, like every other book of its kind written as a participant, it deflates slavery as a possible motive for fighting. This is the adventure of one tough, daring, funny young rebel whose brawn, wits and instincts got him through the war alive. The business of jumping off a POW train seemed more like something out of an Indiana Jones adventure. If he'd worn the "blue" he'd be in every textbook. Tired of other writers' interpretations and want to go to the well for yourself? This is a great place to start.

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By A Customer

One of the best CW books I have read to date. Fletcher's experiences reflects the true hardships and nastiness of war. Excellently written in a first person format. Mr. Fletcher seemed to be a level headed and unbiased man, and his book showcases this.

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By D. Blankenship

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