

**A SOLDIER'S STORY OF THE SIEGE OF  
VICKSBURG. WITH CONFEDERATE  
ACCOUNTS  
FROM AUTHENTIC SOURCES.  
ILLUSTRATED WITH PORTRAITS AND  
APPROPRIATE ENGRAVINGS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649064939

A Soldier's Story of the Siege of Vicksburg. With Confederate Accounts from Authentic Sources.  
Illustrated with Portraits and Appropriate Engravings by Osborn H. Oldroyd & M. F. Force

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**OSBORN H. OLDROYD & M. F. FORCE**

**A SOLDIER'S STORY OF THE SIEGE OF  
VICKSBURG. WITH CONFEDERATE  
ACCOUNTS  
FROM AUTHENTIC SOURCES.  
ILLUSTRATED WITH PORTRAITS AND  
APPROPRIATE ENGRAVINGS**



A SOLDIER'S STORY  
OF THE  
SIEGE OF VICKSBURG,

FROM THE DIARY OF

OSBORN H. OLDROYD,  
(LATE SERGEANT Co. E. 25TH OHIO.  
(EDITOR "LINCOLN MEMORIAL ALBUM.")

WITH

CONFEDERATE ACCOUNTS FROM AUTHENTIC SOURCES, AND AN  
INTRODUCTION BY BREVET MAJ.-GEN. M. F. FORCE.

---

ILLUSTRATED

WITH PORTRAITS AND APPROPRIATE ENGRAVINGS.

---

SPRINGFIELD, ILL. :  
PUBLISHED FOR THE AUTHOR.  
1885.

~~8325.529~~  
U.S. 5680.12

1885. Aug. 5,  
By exchange.

---

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1885,  
By OSBORN H. OLDROYD,  
in the office of the Librarian of Congress, at Washington, D. C.

---

---

H. W. BOKER,  
PRINTER, BINDER AND STEROTYPER,  
Springfield, Ill.

---

## GENERAL CONTENTS.

---

DEDICATION.....	v
AUTHOR'S PREFACE.....	vii
INTRODUCTION BY MAJ.-GEN. M. F. FORCE.....	1
PERSONAL DIARY.....	3
APPENDIX A.....	79
"    B.....	85
"    C.....	113
"    D.....	125
"    E.....	130
"    F.....	181
"    G.....	133
"    H.....	133
"    I.....	156
"    J.....	181
INDEX.....	197

## PREFACE.

---

I GRASPED a Harper's Ferry musket and joined Company E, 20th Ohio Regiment of Volunteers, at Camp Chase, in Ohio, October 15, 1861. Though but nineteen years of age, and in delicate health, I soon became acclimated, and took part in nearly all the operations of my regiment from the engagement at Fort Donelson to the close of the war, when I was mustered out, on the 19th of July, 1865, in the same camp in which I had enlisted.

The scenes described in this little volume were put in writing at the front. They are not sketches from fancy, produced by the aid of memory after the lapse of twenty years, but each day's march, battle, or life in the camp, was recorded upon the spot—now, at the close of a hard day's march; again, when tired and hungry after a hotly contested battle; and again, in the camp, while the cross-firing of the contending lines made it impossible to find a place secure enough to write down the day's transactions. I have brushed the powder of a bursting shell off my paper, and changed my position in order to escape the range of the enemy's guns. Under such difficulties my diary of the siege of Vicksburg was kept.

All I claim for this volume is, that it is a simple and straightforward story of the life of a soldier in the ranks. It is hoped that it may serve the purpose of refreshing the memory of those who fought the battles and endured the hardships of our great struggle. If it will only serve to kindle that patriotism in the heart of some youth, that will enable him to spring to arms at his country's call, in defense of the Nation's honor, as did the boys of '61, the author shall feel abundantly paid for his labor.

It is my pleasure to cherish none but the best of feelings toward those in gray who met us on the field of battle. The men in the ranks, on both sides, always met, outside of the battle



ground, with the best of feeling for one another; and now that the war is over, they can certainly shake hands most heartily across the bloody chasm.

Our commanding officers will always be remembered as brave soldiers and devoted patriots, and they won the hearts of all the men in the ranks.

In closing this preface, I wish to express my most cordial thanks to those who have kindly loaned their portraits to be engraved for this volume.

"With malice toward none, with charity for all,"

I subscribe myself,

OSWORN H. OLDROYD.

LINCOLN MANSION, SPRINGFIELD, ILL.,  
JULY 17th, 1882.



## INTRODUCTION.

---

**H**ISTORY treats of men in masses. It does not undertake to portray individuals, except leaders and men of prominence. The histories of our civil war tell of the movements of armies and acts of generals. But the war was a popular uprising. It was carried on by the people. It cannot be understood without a knowledge of the enlisted men,—how they felt, how they lived, what they thought.

The diary kept by an enlisted man through the Vicksburg campaign is a valuable contribution to such knowledge. The writer, OSBORN H. OLDROYD, while yet not of age, was appointed Fifth Sergeant of Company E, 20th Ohio, just before the battle of Raymond. His company went into the battle under the command of the Second Lieutenant. Early in the engagement the lieutenant was shot through the neck; the First Sergeant was killed, and soon young Oldroyd was in command of the company. He gallantly held the responsible post till the close of the battle. Intelligent, trusty, honorable, his narrative may be depended upon as a faithful description of what he saw.

M. F. FORCE.

CINCINNATI, OHIO, 1885.

