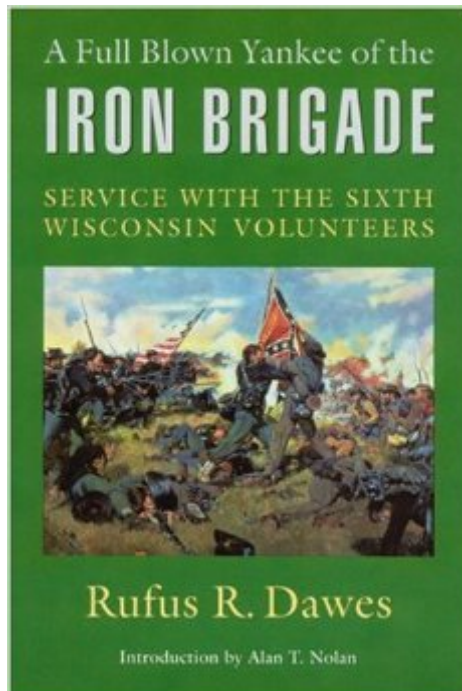


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A Full Blown Yankee Of The Iron Brigade: Service With The Sixth Wisconsin Volunteers



Synopsis

"I have been so wholly engrossed with my work for the last week or I should have responded sooner to your question: "Are you going?" If a kind Providence and President Lincoln will permit, I am. I am Captain of as good, and true a band of patriots as ever rallied under the star spangled banner." Rufus R. Dawes. A Full Blown Yankee of the Iron Brigade combines the personal experiences of Rufus R. Dawes with a history of the regiment in which he served. The Iron Brigade was the only all-Western brigade that fought in the eastern armies of the Union and was perhaps the most distinguished of the Federal brigades. Dawes is credited with a keen sense of observation and a fresh and vivid style. Seldom absent from the field during his entire three-and-a-half-year term, he chronicled Second Bull Run, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, the Wilderness campaign, Cold Harbor, and the Petersburg lines. Perhaps most remarkable is the well-honed sense of humor he displayed about both the war and himself. Dawes's sophisticated account of significant military organizations and events improves our understanding of the epic of the Civil War.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Author Rufus Dawes lived this book. A chronology of his Civil War experiences during his 3-year term of service from 1861 to 1864, this is the finest work I have had the pleasure to read regarding the American Civil War. Dawes would enter service as a private and exit as a full Colonel, commanding officer of the 6th Wisconsin Volunteer Regiment. The 6th was 1 of 5 regiments in the

famed Iron Brigade, Army of the Potomac. The Iron Brigade would serve continuously in combat from Brawner's Farm (2nd Manassas) to Gettysburg sustaining the highest number of deaths by combat of any brigade in the Army of the Potomac. The 6th Wisconsin would sustain 10th highest death by combat rate for any regiment engaged during the entire war. As the Iron Brigade, the 6th Wisconsin would fight at 2nd Manassas, South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, and Gettysburg, first North of town at the railroad cut where Dawes would lead an attack that would capture Archer's Confederate Brigade intact and then, later that night, at Culp's Hill where he would lead a counterattack driving Confederate forces from their lodgment in the Federal's outer works. The day after Gettysburg Dawes would turn 25. Destroyed by enemy fire at Gettysburg, the Iron Brigade ceased to exist. After Gettysburg the 6th Wisconsin would be absorbed by other brigades going on to serve in intense combat at the Wilderness, Spotsylvania (Laurel Hill and the Mule Shoe), North Anna, Cold Harbor, Jericho Ford, and Petersburg. During all this continuous, terrible fighting Rufus Dawes, despite bullet holes in his hat, would never be struck by enemy fire. Wounded officers returning to the front would say to him, "Are you still here?"

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