



A Gentleman and an Officer: A Social and Military History of James B. Griffin's Civil War (Hardback)

By Lecturer in History Judith N McArthur, Professor of History and Sociology Orville Vernon Burton, James B Griffin

Oxford University Press Inc, United States, 1997. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 224 x 148 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. In 1861, James B. Griffin left Edgefield, South Carolina and rode off to Virginia to take up duty with the Confederate Army in a style that befitted a Southern gentleman: on a fine-blooded horse, with two slaves to wait on him, two trunks, and his favorite hunting dog. He was thirty-five years old, a wealthy planter, and the owner of sixty-one slaves when he joined Wade Hampton's elite Legion as a major of cavalry. He left behind seven children, the eldest only twelve, and a wife who was eight and a half months pregnant. As a field officer in a prestigious unit, the opportunities for fame and glory seemed limitless. Griffin, however, performed no daring acts, nor did he inspire great loyalty in his men. Instead, he unknowingly provided a unique and invaluable portrait of the Confederate officers who formed the core of Southern political, military, and business leadership. In *A Gentleman and an Officer*, Judith N. McArthur and Orville Vernon Burton have collected eighty of Griffin's letters written at the Virginia front,...



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