

BOOKS FOR EXPLORING AND UNDERSTANDING NEW HAMPSHIRE IN THE CIVIL WAR

A Note About Sources, Literature, And History

Here are some sources that offer either information about New Hampshire in the Civil War or background and context. Much is not included here. For instance, local town and city histories of the nineteenth century often include chapters on people from the community who fought in the Civil War. Old newspapers contain letters or personal memoirs written by soldiers, sailors, nurses, and doctors.

Teachers are encouraged to range through these titles and enjoy learning about New Hampshire in the Civil War so they can decide what is important for their students to know. Not all titles are still in print but might be found in local libraries or online. And sadly, teachers of New Hampshire Civil War history searching for texts written for young readers will be frequently disappointed since most of the listed titles are written for an adult audience. Some can be excerpted, however, and some primary sources might be appropriate for younger readers. Middle and high school students can use the reference works to find clues to their own town's or city's history.

After reading a few of these books ranging across time, something becomes very apparent: each author's point of view. As readers of history wanting to see clearly, we recognize how an author's point of view might taint or slant a story. Students might benefit from noting the varying points of view, for instance, of 19th-century Northern civic authors or white soldiers from New Hampshire. How do these compare with 19th-century Black authors or Southern white authors? How do the points of view of 19th century historians compare with more recent professional historians who have the advantages of newer research and interpretations?

Which of the authors below wrote to glorify the Northern victory or New Hampshire's role in it? Which wrote to help the reader see what happened more clearly? Which was more interested in re-unifying North and South than in furthering the welfare of former slaves? Which of the listed works could be considered most accurate, do you think? How could your own knowledge of the causes, events, and consequences of the Civil War help you to make accurate judgments about what you read?

Most of the titles hold a specific connection to New Hampshire. Some, however, are included to give more general context, such as those on Black history, sugar, and cotton.

Bibliography

- Abbott, Elizabeth. *Sugar: A Bittersweet History*. Overlook Hardcover, 2010. Abbott links sugar and slavery, especially in the Caribbean for readers in middle school and higher.
- Alcott, Louisa May. *Civil War Hospital Sketches*. New York: Dover Publications, 1863 and 2006. Although Alcott was from Massachusetts, she mentioned a few New Hampshire people in *Hospital Sketches*, and her experiences reflected similar experiences of nurses from neighboring New Hampshire.
- Aronson, Marc, and Marina Budhos. *Sugar Changed the World: A Story of Magic, Spice, Slavery, Freedom, and Science*. Clarion Books, 2010. Lexile Measure 1130L. Not specific to New Hampshire, this will still help students see the connections between the global economic histories of sugar and slavery.
- Ash, Stephen B. *The Firebrand of Liberty: The Story of Two Black Regiments That Changed the Course of the Civil War*. New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 2008. Not specific to New Hampshire.
- Ayling, Augustus D. *Revised Register of the Soldiers and Sailors of New Hampshire in the War of the Rebellion*. Concord, NH: Ira C. Evans, 1895. Use this to look for people from your town or city.
- Bartlett, Asa W. *History of the Twelfth Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteers in the Rebellion*. Concord, NH, Ira C. Evans, 1897.
- Biles, Daniel V., and Sheila M. Cumberworth. *An Enduring Love: The Civil War Diaries of Benjamin Franklin Pierce and His Wife Harriett Jane Goodwin Pierce*. Gettysburg: Thomas Publications, 1995.
- Billings, John H. *Hardtack and Coffee or the Unwritten Story of Army Life*. Boston: George A. Smith, 1883. Reprint University of Nebraska Press, 1993. This is a detailed classic used by many Civil War re-enactors but is not specific to New Hampshire.
- Block, Eugene B. *Above the Civil War: The Story Of Thaddeus Lowe, Balloonist, Inventor, Railway Builder*. Berkeley, CA: Howell-North Books, 1966.
- Bolster, W. Jeffrey. *Black Jacks: African American Seamen in the Age of Sail*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1997. Bolster's book is not specific to New Hampshire, but is an award-winning book that lays out the realities of Atlantic maritime culture for Black sailors.
- Bolster, W. Jeffrey, and Hilary Anderson. *Soldiers, Sailors, Slaves, and Ships: The Civil War Photographs of Henry P. Moore*. Concord, NH: New Hampshire Historical Society, 1999. Henry P. Moore was a well-known New Hampshire photographer. Some of his photos have become classic Civil War icons.

- Boylston, Edward D., ed. *Amherst in the Great Civil Conflict of 1861-65*. Amherst, NH: E.D. Boylston, 1893. Here's an example of how local history written in the 19th century connected with national events. Notice the point of view.
- Brackett, R.J.M., ed. *Thomas Morris Chester, Black Civil War Correspondent: His Dispatches from the Virginia Front*. New York: Da Capo Press, 1989. Not specific to New Hampshire.
- Brink, Carol. *Harps in the Wind: The Story of the Singing Hutchinsons*. New York: The MacMillan Co., 1947. The members of this famous family from Milford were the singing voices of reform. They moved West and continued their family calling.
- Brumgardt, John R., ed. *Civil War Nurse: The Diary and Letters of Hannah Ropes*. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1980.
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- Child, William. *A History of the Fifth Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteers, in the American Civil War, 1861-1865*. Bristol, NH: R.W. Musgrove, 1893.
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- Clark, Edie. "The Immensity of Sacrifice." *Yankee Magazine* 62 (March 1998).
[re Memorial Day and Civil War soldiers in Harrisville, New Hampshire.]
- Clarke, John B. *Manchester: A brief record of its past and a picture of its present, 1820-1891*. Manchester, N.H., Manchester Mirror Office, 1875.
- Cleveland, Mather. *New Hampshire Fights the Civil War*. New London, NH: Mather Cleveland, 1969. Also Vermont: The Stinehour Press, 1969.
- Coffin, Charles Carleton. *Four Years of Fighting: A Volume of Personal Observation with the Army and Navy from the First Battle of Bull Run to the Fall of Richmond*. Boston: Ticknor and Fields, 1866.
- Cogswell, Leander Winslow. *A History of the Eleventh New Hampshire Regiment, Volunteer Infantry, in the Rebellion War, 1861-1865*. Concord, NH: Republican Press Association, 1891.
- Cole, Donald B., and John J. McDonough, eds. *Witness to the Young Republic: A Yankee's Journal, 1828-1870*. Hanover: University Press of New England, 1989.

- Conn, Granville P. *History of the New Hampshire Surgeons in the War of Rebellion*. Concord, NH: I. C. Evans, 1906.
- Copp, Col. Elbridge J. *Reminiscences of the War of the Rebellion*. Nashua, N.H., the Telegraph Company, 1911.
- Cross, Edward Ephraim. *Stand Firm and Fire Low: The Civil War Writings of Colonel Edward E. Cross*. Walter Holden, William E. Ross, and Elizabeth Slomba, eds. Hanover: University Press of New England, 2003.
- Covell, Ann. *Jane Appleton Pierce: U.S. First Lady (1853-1857) – Her family, Life, and Times*. New York: Hamilton Books, 2013.
- Dobak, William A. *Freedom by the Sword: The U.S. Colored Troops, 1862-77*. Washington, DC: U.S. Army Center of Military History, 2011.
- Emilio, Luis F. *A Brave Black Regiment: The History of the 54th Massachusetts, 1863-1865*. New York: Da Capo Press, 1995.
- Fahey, J.P. *Mustered! Foot Soldiers of the 12th*. Port Richey, FL: Hampshire House, 2001.
- Fox, William F. *Regimental Losses in the American Civil War 1861-1865: A Treatise on the Extent and Nature of the Mortuary Losses in the Union Regiments. With Full and Exhaustive Statistics Compiled from the Official Records on File in the State Military Bureaus and at Washington*. Albany: Albany Publishing Company, 1889.
- Gac, Scott. *Singing for Freedom: The Hutchinson Family Singers and the Nineteenth-Century Culture of Reform*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2007.
- Gallman, T. Matthew. *America's Joan of Arc: The Life of Anna Elizabeth Dickinson*. New York, Oxford University Press, 2006. Dickinson was a controversial Pennsylvania Quaker, abolitionist, and advocate for woman suffrage who traveled the lecture circuit and gave impassioned political speeches in the Northeast, including New Hampshire. She enjoyed youth and fame. Her star faded when aged.
- Gates, Jr., Henry Lweis, and Donald Yacovone. *The African Americans: Many Rivers to Cross*. Smiley Books, 2013. This colorful PBS book and video narrated by a highly respected Black historian explains the connections between the cotton textile economy and slavery as well as the sweep of Black history in the U.S. The series includes the early slave trade, the Civil War, and present-day Black history.

- Garvin, Donna-Belle, ed. "Too Long in the Shadows: The Black Presence." *Historical New Hampshire*. 61 (Spring 2007). Black history in New Hampshire is unrepresented in the literature, and *Historical New Hampshire* attempts to fill some of the gaps with three articles that relate life stories of blacks residing in towns across the state from the Seacoast to the Connecticut Valley.
- Gorman, Kathleen. "New Hampshire's Contribution to Berdan's U.S. Volunteer Sharpshooters." *Historical New Hampshire* 38 (Summer/Fall1983): 174.
- Griffis, William Elliot. *Charles Carleton Coffin: War Correspondent, Traveller, Author, and Statesman*. Boston: Estes and Lauriat. 1898. Coffin was born and grew up in Boscawen, N.H. He wrote news accounts of battles and published several books about the Civil War.
- Hale, Sarah Josepha. *Northwood; or, Life north and south: showing the true character of both*. Michigan Historical reprint Series, 2005. Born in Newport, N.H., Hale began as a freelance writer and became the long-time editor of *Godey's Lady's Book*. She persuaded Lincoln to declare Thanksgiving a national holiday to fall on the last Thursday in November.
- Hastings, William H., ed. *Letters From A Sharpshooter: The Civil War letters of Private William B. Greene, Co G, 2nd US Sharpshooters (Berdan's) Army of the Potomac 1861-1865*. Belleville, WI: Historic Publications, 1993.
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- Haynes, Martin A. *History of the Second Regiment New Hampshire Volunteers: Its Camps, Marches and Battles*. Manchester: Charles F. Livingston, 1865.
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- Heald, Bruce D. *New Hampshire in the Civil War*. Charleston: The History Press, 2012. Military history.

Hodes, Martha. *The Sea Captain's Wife: A True Story of Love, Race & War in the Nineteenth Century*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2006. Scholar and historian Martha Hodes discovered a large cache of family letters and used them to tell the story of Eunice Richardson Stone Connolly, who worked in the Manchester Amoskeag mills, married and moved to Alabama. Eunice's husband and brother-in-law fought for the Confederacy while her two brothers fought for the Union. Eunice returned to New Hampshire and Massachusetts without her husband during the war. Subsequently widowed, she married a prosperous Black sea captain in 1869, and they sailed to his home in the Cayman Islands where they lived happily. They and their children were lost at sea in an unexpected hurricane in 1877.

Hoehling, Mary Duprey. *Thaddeus Lowe, America's One-man Air Corps*. Chicago: Kingston House, 1958. [See Hayden entry above.]

Houston, Alan Fraser. *Keep Up Good Courage: A Yankee Family and the Civil War*. Portsmouth: Peter E. Randall, 2006.

Hudziak, Mark. "From Fredericksburg to the fall of Richmond, the 12th New Hampshire ably represented the Granite State." *America's Civil War* 11 (November 1998): 8.

Hunter, Alvah. *A New Hampshire Boyhood* (unpublished). Gilford, NH: Thompson-Ames Historical Society.

———. *A Year on a Monitor and the Destruction of Fort Sumter*. Craig L. Symonds, ed. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1987. From New Hampshire, Alvah Hunter was a 16-year-old ship's boy when he served on this historic boat and kept a diary.

Hutchinson, John Gould. *History of the Fourth Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteers*. Manchester: John B. Clarke, 1913.

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Kelly, Margaret Whyte. *The Story of Sarah Parker Rice Goodwin, Wife of Ichabod Goodwin, New Hampshire's Civil War Governor*. Portsmouth: Back Channel Press, 2006.

Little, Henry F.W. *The Seventh New Hampshire Volunteers in the War of the Rebellion*. Concord, NH: Ira C. Evans, 1896.

- Long, Richard R. *Dearest Carrie: The Civil War Romance of a Myerstown Girl and a New Hampshire Boy*. Morgantown, PA: Masthof Press, 2004.
- Longacre, Edward G. *A Regiment of Slaves: The 4th United States Colored Infantry, 1863-1866*. Mechanicsburg, PA: Stackpole Books, 2003.
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- McFarland, Henry. *Sixty Years in Concord and Elsewhere: Personal Recollections of Henry McFarland*. The Rumford Press, Concord, 1899.
- Musgrove, Richard W. *Autobiography of Captain Richard W. Musgrove*. Bristol, NH: R.W. Musgrove, 1921.
- Page, Elwin L., and Mike Pride. *Abraham Lincoln in New Hampshire*. Concord, NH: Monitor Publishing Co., 2009. Abraham Lincoln came to Exeter to visit his son at Phillips-Exeter Academy in 1860. He made political speeches in Exeter, Concord, Dover, and Manchester. It was during this trip, some say, he was persuaded by the warm response to run for President of the United States.
- Parton, James, et al. *Eminent women of the age: being narratives of the lives and deeds of the most prominent women of the present generation*. Hartford: S.M. Betts, 1868.
- Pillsbury, Hobart. "Chapter XXIX: New Hampshire in the Civil War." *New Hampshire: Resources, Attractions, and Its People, A History 2*. New York: The Lewis Historical Publishing Co., 1927: 515-550.
- Pillsbury, Parker. *Acts of the Anti-Slavery Apostles*. Concord: Clague, Wegman, Schlicht, & Co., (printers), 1883. Abolitionist Parker Pillsbury, a lecturer and minister, wrote this account of experiences of anti-slavery lecturers in New Hampshire and Massachusetts. Pillsbury shows the conflicts within the movement and from the public during the traveling lectures. Written two decades after the Civil War, this contains quite a lot of churchly editorializing that may put off some readers, but it does illustrate an otherwise untold local story.

- Poleskie, Steve. *The Balloonist : The Story Of T.S.C. Lowe-- Inventor, Scientist, Magician, and Father of the U.S. Air Force*. Savannah: Frederic C. Beil, 2007.
- Pride, Mike. *Our War*. Concord: Monitor Publishing Company, 2012.
- Pride, Mike, and Mark Travis. *My Brave Boys: To War with Colonel Cross and the Fighting Fifth*. Hanover: University Press of New England, 2001.
- Renda, Lex. *Running on the Record: Civil War Era Politics in New Hampshire*. Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1997.
- Richardson, Leon B. *William E. Chandler, Republican*. New York: Dodd, Mead, 1940.
- Robertson, Stacy M. *Parker Pillsbury: Radical Abolitionist, Male Feminist*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2000. Includes chapters on New Hampshire abolitionists.
- Robinson, H.L. *Pittsfield, N.H. in the Great Rebellion*. Pittsfield: H.L. Robinson, 1893.
- Sanchez, Anita. *Mr. Lincoln's Chair: The Shakers and Their Quest for Peace*. Granville, Ohio: McDonald and Woodward Publishing, 2009. Henry Blinn and three others of Canterbury, N.H., Shaker Village were drafted in 1863 during the Civil War. They traveled to Washington, D.C., to petition President Lincoln for conscientious objector status. He granted their request and the Shakers made a chair for President Lincoln in thanks. Most of the book is about Shaker history.
- Sammons, Mark, and Valerie Cunningham. *Black Portsmouth: Three Centuries of African-American Heritage*. Durham: University Press of New Hampshire, 2004.
- Schwartz, Gerald, ed. *A Woman Doctor's Civil War: Esther Hill Hawks' Diary*. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1984. Esther Hill Hawkes, born in Hooksett, N.H., was unusual as a female doctor in her own right, not a nurse, during the Civil War. She served with her husband, also a doctor, in South Carolina.
- Shaffer, Duane E. *Men of Granite: New Hampshire's Soldiers in the Civil War*. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2008.
- Sims, Lydel. *Thaddeus Lowe: Uncle Sam's First Airman*. New York: Putnam & Sons, 1964.
- Smith, Frederick H. *Caribbean Rum: A Social and Economic History*. Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2005. Rum was one of the driving forces of the Atlantic slave economy, of which New England and New Hampshire were a part. This is a scholarly analysis of the history of rum in the Atlantic world.
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- Squires, James Duane. "Chapter XVII: The Granite State in the Civil War, 1861-1865." *A History of the Granite State of the United States: A History of New Hampshire from 1623 to the Present* 1. New York: The American Historical Co, 1956: 375-406.
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- Wilbur, C. Keith. *Civil War Medicine, 1861-1865*. Old Saybrook: The Globe Pequot Press, 1998.
- Wilson, Harriet. *Our Nig: Sketches from the Life of a Free Black*. Boston: Geo. C. Rand & Avery, 1859. This important work by a N.H. author, who lived in Milford, is considered the first novel published in North America by an African-American woman. Reprints are available with commentary.
- Winslow, Richard E., III. "Constructing Munitions of War": *The Portsmouth Navy Yard Confronts the Confederacy, 1861-1865*. Portsmouth: The Portsmouth Marine Society, Peter Randall Publisher, 1995.
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Video:

Many Rivers to Cross. DVD & Book. PBS. Episode Two, “The Cotton Economy and Slavery.” Henry Lewis Gates, Jr. 2013.

Glory. DVD. Sony Pictures, 2001.