

# Ironclads

## A History of Ironclads

One of history's greatest naval engagements, the Battle of Hampton Roads, occurred on March 8 and 9, 1862. On the first morning, the Confederate ironclad the CSS Virginia, formerly known as the Merrimack, sank two Union wooden warships, proving the power of the armored vessels over the traditional sailing ships. The next morning, the Virginia engaged the Union ironclad USS Monitor to a draw in a battle that significantly altered naval warfare. It was the first engagement between ironclads and ushered in a new era of warship construction and ordnance. The 25,000 sailors, soldiers and civilians who witnessed the battle knew then what history would soon confirm: wars waged on the waters would never be the same. The seemingly invincible Monitor and Virginia were experimental ships, revolutionary combinations of new and old technology, and their clash on March 9, 1862, was the culmination of over 2,000 years of naval experience. The construction and combat service of ironclads during the Civil War were the first in a cascade of events that influenced the outcome of the war and prompted the development of improved ironclads as well as the creation of new weapons systems, such as torpedoes and submarines, needed to counter modern armored warships.

## European Ironclads 1860–75

From Spain to Russia, and from Ottoman Turkey to Bismarck's Prussia, this book explores 15 years that transformed European naval warfare. When the Gloire slid down the Toulon slipway in 1859, it changed sea power forever. With this ship, the world's first oceangoing ironclad, France had a warship that could sink any other, and which was proof against the guns of any wooden ship afloat. Instantly, an arms race began between the great navies of Europe – first to build their own ironclads, and then to surpass each other's technology and designs. As both armour and gun technology rapidly improved, naval architects found new ways to mount and protect guns. The ram briefly came back into fashion, and Italian and Austro-Hungarian fleets fought the ironclad era's great battle at Lissa. By the end of this revolutionary period, the modern battleship was becoming recognizable, and new naval powers were emerging to dominate Europe's waters.

## Civil War Ironclads

Honorable Mention, Science and Technology category, John Lyman Book Awards, North American Society for Oceanic History Civil War Ironclads supplies the first comprehensive study of one of the most ambitious programs in the history of naval shipbuilding. In constructing its new fleet of ironclads, William H. Roberts explains, the U.S. Navy faced the enormous engineering challenges of a largely experimental technology. In addition, it had to manage a ship acquisition program of unprecedented size and complexity. To meet these challenges, the Navy established a "project office" that was virtually independent of the existing administrative system. The office spearheaded efforts to broaden the naval industrial base and develop a marine fleet of ironclads by granting shipbuilding contracts to inland firms. Under the intense pressure of a wartime economy, it learned to support its high-technology vessels while incorporating the lessons of combat. But neither the broadened industrial base nor the advanced management system survived the return of peace. Cost overruns, delays, and technical blunders discredited the embryonic project office, while capital starvation and never-ending design changes crippled or ruined almost every major builder of ironclads. When Navy contracts evaporated, so did the shipyards. Contrary to widespread belief, Roberts concludes, the ironclad program set Navy shipbuilding back a generation.

## **Battle of the Ironclads**

Read about the famous Civil War battle between two armored ships.

### **The Battle of the Ironclads**

Battle of the Ironclads brings to life the dramatic events which occurred in Hampton Roads on March 8 and 9, 1862. This first battle between armored vessels, often called the Monitor-Merrimack engagement, is perhaps the most significant naval event of the entire Civil War. This thrilling history is the first volume to offer a comprehensive pictorial interpretation of the men and ships that forever changed naval warfare. Over 150 images, including photographs, engravings, paintings, and sketches, have been gathered from museums, archives, and private collections to chronicle the exciting story of the U.S.S. Monitor and the C.S.S. Virginia (Merrimack). While Battle of the Ironclads is a visual history of the first battle between armored ships, it is also a saga of uncommon valor and leadership epitomized by Franklin Buchanan, George U. Morris, Samuel Dana Greene, and John Taylor Wood. The brilliant innovations of John Mercer Brooke and the farsighted inventions of John Ericsson made this showdown in Hampton Roads a death for wooden sailing ships. Battle of the Ironclads is indeed an epic tale that tells how steam-powered iron vessels not only influenced the Civil War, but more importantly, how the two ironclads echoed the dawn of modern navies.

### **The Duel of Ironclads**

In the annals of naval history, the era of ironclad warships stands as a testament to human ingenuity and the relentless pursuit of maritime dominance. These colossal vessels, encased in thick armor and armed with powerful guns, revolutionized naval combat, ushering in a new age of technological innovation and strategic thinking. This comprehensive exploration of the ironclad era takes readers on a riveting journey through the world of these iron behemoths, from their humble origins to their starring roles in epic naval clashes. Witness the legendary duel between the USS Monitor and CSS Virginia at the Battle of Hampton Roads, a pivotal moment that forever altered the course of naval warfare. Delve into the technological advancements that fueled the rapid evolution of ironclads, from steam propulsion and turret-mounted guns to innovative armor and weaponry. Beyond their battlefield exploits, ironclads also left an indelible mark on society and culture. Explore their representation in popular culture, from their portrayal in literature and film to their enduring presence in museums and historic sites. Examine their significance as symbols of national pride and identity, and how these vessels became potent embodiments of maritime power and technological prowess. Unravel the intricate tapestry of the ironclad era, where technology, strategy, and human endeavor intertwined to shape a transformative period in naval history. Gain a deeper understanding of the immense power and influence wielded by these ironclad leviathans, and their lasting impact on the world stage. This book is an essential read for anyone fascinated by naval history, technological innovation, and the enduring legacy of these iconic warships. Prepare to be captivated by the stories of ironclad battles, technological marvels, and the men who sailed these mighty vessels into the annals of history. If you like this book, write a review on google books!

### **Union River Ironclad 1861–65**

At the start of the American Civil War, neither side had warships on the Mississippi River, which was a vital strategic artery. In what would prove the vital naval campaign of the war, both sides fought for control of the river. While the Confederates relied on field fortifications and small gunboats, the Union built a series of revolutionary river ironclads. First commissioned in January 1862, these ironclads spent the next two years battling for control of the Mississippi, fighting in a string of decisive engagements that altered the entire course of the war. This book explains how these vessels worked, how they were constructed, how they were manned and how they were fought.

# **Sea Giants of the American Civil War: A History of the Union and Confederate Navies' Armored Ships**

In the tumultuous waters of the American Civil War, a new breed of warship emerged, forever changing the face of naval warfare: the ironclad. These heavily armored vessels, impervious to the cannon fire of the era, transformed battles at sea into clashes of iron and steel. In this captivating book, we take a deep dive into the history of the ironclads, exploring their origins, development, and impact on the Civil War. From the early experiments with armored ships during the Crimean War to the construction of the first American ironclads, the USS Monitor and CSS Virginia, we trace the evolution of these formidable vessels. We examine their design features, armament, and performance in battle, highlighting their strengths and weaknesses. The Battle of Hampton Roads, a pivotal clash between the Monitor and Virginia, is given particular attention, as it marked a turning point in naval warfare. Beyond their military significance, ironclads had a profound impact on the social and cultural landscape of the Civil War. Their appearance on the battlefield captured the public's imagination, inspiring awe and fear in equal measure. Newspapers and magazines devoted extensive coverage to these "sea monsters," and their exploits became the subject of songs, poems, and works of art. The legacy of the ironclads extends far beyond the Civil War. They paved the way for the development of modern battleships and aircraft carriers, and their influence can still be seen in today's naval forces. This book explores the enduring fascination with ironclads, examining their representation in popular culture, from literature and film to video games and music. We also delve into the future of ironclad research and preservation, highlighting the importance of these vessels as historical artifacts and the challenges involved in their conservation. Through meticulous research and engaging storytelling, this book provides a comprehensive and accessible account of the ironclads of the American Civil War, ensuring that their legacy continues to inspire and inform future generations. If you like this book, write a review on google books!

## **The truth about the navy and its coaling stations. By one who knows the facts [W.T. Stead].**

The book covers the story of the entire Confederate ironclad fleet. Melton starts with the James River squadron and the historic battle between the Virginia and Monitor in Hampton Roads. Then in succession, he describes the loss of the New Orleans, the Louisiana, and the Mississippi; the actions of the Arkansas on Western rivers; the Charleston and Mobile squadrons; the operation in North Carolina waters; the destruction of the Albemarle; and the European ironclads.

## **The Confederate Ironclads**

Hampered by lack of materials, shipyards and experienced shipbuilders, even so the South managed to construct 34 iron-armored warships during the Civil War, of which the Confederate Navy put 25 into service. The stories of these vessels illustrate the hardships under which the Navy operated--and also its resourcefulness. Except for the Albemarle, no Confederate ironclad was sunk or destroyed by enemy action. Overtaken by events on the ground, most were destroyed by their own crews to prevent them from falling into Union hands. This account covers the design and construction and the engagements of the Confederate ironclads and describes the ingenuity and courage, as well as the challenges and frustrations of their "too little, too late" service.

## **Confederate Ironclads at War**

In author-illustrator Nathan Hale's Big Bad Ironclad, uncover the story of the American Civil War's ironclad warships with this Hazardous Tale in the New York Times bestselling graphic novel series! "These books are, quite simply, brilliant. . . . Thrilling, bloody, action-packed stories from American history." —New York Times Ships are great for transport, but when they are made of wood they tend to start leaking when cannons fire upon them. But what if the ship is covered with iron? Assuming it doesn't sink to the bottom of the ocean, wouldn't it be stronger and better than any other ship out there? This is the question that begins a race

between the North and the South to come up with the biggest, best ironclad warships. Here is the story of the USS Monitor and the CSS Virginia (also called the Merrimack), two of the world's first ironclad ships, and their fascinating role in the Civil War. Through their ironclad battle, you will get a wider perspective to the war. Meet Abraham Lincoln and his cabinet. Learn about General Winfield Scott's Anaconda Plan to cut off the South from any outside support. And meet Gideon Welles, Lincoln's "Father Neptune" and secretary of the Navy. Sail back in time and learn of a battle that changed warfare, and a war that changed history. Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales! Read them all—if you dare! One Dead Spy: A Revolutionary War Tale (#1) Big Bad Ironclad!: A Civil War Tale (#2) Donner Dinner Party: A Pioneer Tale (#3) Treaties, Trenches, Mud, and Blood: A World War I Tale (#4) The Underground Abductor: An Abolitionist Tale about Harriet Tubman (#5) Alamo All-Stars: A Texas Tale (#6) Raid of No Return: A World War II Tale of the Doolittle Raid (#7) Lafayette!: A Revolutionary War Tale (#8) Major Impossible: A Grand Canyon Tale (#9) Blades of Freedom: A Tale of Haiti, Napoleon, and the Louisiana Purchase (#10) Cold War Correspondent: A Korean War Tale (#11) Above the Trenches: A WWI Flying Ace Tale (#12)

## **Big Bad Ironclad! (Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales #2)**

From 1861 to 1865, the American Civil War saw numerous technological innovations in warfare--chief among them was the ironclad warship. Based on the Official Records, biographical works, ship and operations histories, newspapers and other sources, this book chronicles the lives of 158 ironclad captains, North and South, who were charged with outfitting and commanding these then-revolutionary vessels in combat. Each biography includes (where known) birth and death information, pre- and post-war career, and details about ships served upon or commanded.

## **Ironclad Captains of the Civil War**

The Ironclad was a revolutionary weapon of war, the first modern, armoured, self-propelled warships. During the American Civil War the South used ironclads to protect their ports from the Northern blockade. Impressed with their superior resistance to fire and, the North developed its own rival fleet of ironclads. Eventually the two products of this modern arms race duelled at the battle of Hampton Roads in a clash that would change the face of naval warfare. Fully illustrated with cutting-edge digital artwork, rare photographs and first-person perspective gunsight views, this book highlights the revolutionary and radically different designs of the two rival Ironclads – the Merrimac and USS Monitor – through an analysis of each ship's weaponry, ammunition and steerage.

## **Confederate Ironclad vs Union Ironclad**

Features essays, statistical data, period photographs, maps, and documents.

## **Civil War America, 1850 To 1875**

The History of the Sea, Lake, and River Battles of the Civil War, is an expose, a denunciation, a condemnation of the lies, the distortions, the deceptions, the misrepresentations, and the slanders of the biased civil war historians, the biased movie makers, and the biased makers of TV Specials, who write distorted books, distorted movies, and make distorted TV Specials about the civil war. For example, President Grant is slandered as the butcher of the civil war, when the real butcher is the traitor Robert E. Lee by an actual count of the men he killed in the battles he fought! Another example is the big lie that the Monitor and Merrimac battle was a draw when it was a clear cut victory for the Monitor! There are two classes of people in The Damn Slavers: The people in the 22 Loyal states and in the 11 traitor states: the Loyalists: the victims; and the people in the 11 traitor states and in the 22 Loyal states: the traitors: the villains! One of the biggest vile lies of the civil war is the depraved lie the traitors won most of the battles! The author counted hundreds of the bigger land battles and the sea, lake, and river battles! This battle count is what Damn Slavers is all about! Surprise, Surprise! The Loyalists won most of the bigger land battles of the civil war by a ratio of

about 2 to 1 from the start of the civil war and won most of the sea, lake, and river battles too, by an overwhelming margin!! If you want to learn some real truths about the civil war, read **Damn Slavers! A History of the Sea, Lake, and River Battles of the Civil War!**

## **On This Day**

On March 9, 1862, an epic naval encounter in Hampton Roads, Virginia, changed the face Of warfare on the water for all time, The Monitor met the Virginia (Merrimack) and their story entered the realm of history and legend.

## **The Parliamentary Debates**

This expansive, multivolume reference work provides a broad, multidisciplinary examination of the Civil War period ranging from pre-Civil War developments and catalysts such as the Mexican-American War to the rebuilding of the war-torn nation during Reconstruction. The Civil War was undoubtedly the most important and seminal event in 19th-century American history. Students who understand the Civil War have a better grasp of the central dilemmas in the American historical narrative: states rights versus federalism, freedom versus slavery, the role of the military establishment, the extent of presidential powers, and individual rights versus collective rights. Many of these dilemmas continue to shape modern society and politics. This comprehensive work facilitates both detailed reading and quick referencing for readers from the high school level to senior scholars in the field. The exhaustive coverage of this encyclopedia includes all significant battles and skirmishes; important figures, both civilian and military; weapons; government relations with Native Americans; and a plethora of social, political, cultural, military, and economic developments. The entries also address the many events that led to the conflict, the international diplomacy of the war, the rise of the Republican Party and the growing crisis and stalemate in American politics, slavery and its impact on the nation as a whole, the secession crisis, the emergence of the \"total war\" concept, and the complex challenges of the aftermath of the conflict.

## **The Old Steam Navy: The ironclads, 1842-1885**

This history of the Confederate Navy's ironclad warship “ will likely be the definitive single title on the CSS Virginia” (Civil War News). When the CSS Virginia—formerly the USS Merrimack—slowly steamed down the Elizabeth River toward Hampton Roads on March 8, 1862, the tide of naval warfare turned from wooden sailing ships to armored, steam-powered vessels. Little did the ironclad's crew realize that their makeshift warship would achieve the greatest Confederate naval victory. The trip was thought by most of the crew to be a trial cruise. Instead, the Virginia's aggressive commander, Franklin Buchanan, transformed the voyage into a test by fire that forever proved the supreme power of iron over wood. The Virginia's ability to beat the odds to become the first ironclad to enter Hampton Roads stands as a testament to her designers, builders, officers, and crew. Virtually everything about the Virginia's design was an improvisation or an adaptation, characteristic of the Confederacy's efforts to wage a modern war with limited industrial resources. Noted historian John V. Quarstein recounts the compelling story of this ironclad underdog, providing detailed appendices, including crew member biographies and a complete chronology of the ship and crew. Includes illustrations

## **Damn Slavers!**

The single most important volume for anyone interested in the Civil War to own and consult. (From the foreword by James M. McPherson) The first guide to Civil War literature to appear in nearly 30 years, this book provides the most comprehensive, up-to-date, and informative survey and analysis of the vast body of Civil War literature. More than 40 essays, each by a specialist in a particular subfield of Civil War history, offer unmatched thoroughness and discerning assessments of each work's value. The essays cover every aspect of the war from strategy, tactics, and battles to logistics, intelligence, supply, and prisoner-of-war

camps, from generals and admirals to the men in the ranks, from the Atlantic to the Far West, from fighting fronts to the home front. Some sections cover civilian leaders, the economy, and foreign policy, while others deal with the causes of war and aspects of Reconstruction, including the African-American experience during and after the war. Breadth of topics is matched by breadth of genres covered. Essays discuss surveys of the war, general reference works, published and unpublished papers, diaries and letters, as well as the vast body of monographic literature, including books, dissertations, and articles. Genealogical sources, historical fiction, and video and audio recordings also receive attention. Students of the American Civil War will find this work an indispensable gateway and guide to the enormous body of information on America's pivotal experience.

## **Duel Between the First Ironclads**

Now fully updated and totally revised, this highly regarded classic remains the most comprehensive study available of America's military history. Called "the preeminent survey of American military history" by Russell F. Weigley, America's foremost military historian, *For the Common Defense* is an essential contribution to the field of military history. This carefully researched third edition provides the most complete and current history of United States defense policy and military institutions and the conduct of America's wars. Without diminishing the value of its earlier editions, authors Allan R. Millett, Peter Maslowski, and William B. Feis provide a fresh perspective on the continuing issues that characterize national security policy. They have updated the work with new material covering nearly twenty years of scholarship, including the history of the American military experience in the Balkans and Somalia, analyzing the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan from 2001 to 2012, and providing two new chapters on the Vietnam War. *For the Common Defense* examines the nation's pluralistic military institutions in both peace and war, the tangled civil-military relations that created the country's commitment to civilian control of the military, the armed forces' increasing nationalization and professionalization, and America's growing reliance on sophisticated technologies spawned by the Industrial Revolution and the Computer and Information Ages. This edition is also a timely reminder that vigilance is indeed the price of liberty but that vigilance has always been—and continues to be—a costly, complex, and contentious undertaking in a world that continually tests America's willingness and ability to provide for the common defense.

## **American Civil War [6 volumes]**

The struggle for control of the Mississippi River was the longest and most complex campaign of the Civil War. It was marked by an extraordinary diversity of military and naval operations, including fleet engagements, cavalry raids, amphibious landings, pitched battles, and the two longest sieges in American history. Every existing type of naval vessel, from sailing ship to armored ram, played a role, and military engineers practiced their art on a scale never before witnessed in modern warfare. Union commanders such as Grant, Sherman, Farragut, and Porter demonstrated the skills that would take them to the highest levels of command. When the immense contest finally reached its climax at Vicksburg and Port Hudson in the summer of 1863, the Confederacy suffered a blow from which it never recovered. Here was the true turning point of the Civil War. ø This fast-paced, gripping narrative of the Civil War struggle for the Mississippi River is the first comprehensive single-volume account to appear in over a century. *Vicksburg Is the Key: The Struggle for the Mississippi River* tells the story of the series of campaigns the Union conducted on land and water to conquer Vicksburg and of the many efforts by the Confederates to break the siege of the fortress. William L. Shea and Terrence J. Winschel present the unfolding drama of the campaign in a clear and readable style, correct historic myths along the way, and examine the profound strategic effects of the eventual Union victory.

## **The CSS Virginia**

This is an exploration of the Charleston Campaign in the Civil War through the lens of leadership. Part One, "Understanding Charleston," contains a discussion of leadership, a campaign overview, and a brief

introduction to the key participants. Part Two, "Leadership Vignettes," includes 21 scenarios that span the actions of the most senior leaders down to those of individual soldiers. Each scenario provides the context, explains the action in the terms of leadership lessons learned, and concludes with a list of "take-aways" to crystallize the lessons for the reader. The book ends with summary information and a set of conclusions about leadership during the Charleston Campaign. Although it featured some of the era's most advanced military technology, the Charleston Campaign was decided by more than just shot and shell, and this book offers a perspective of the campaign as a leadership laboratory.

## **Parliamentary Debates**

A historian's collection of stories about unknown contributors to the successes and failures of the Union and Confederate sides during the Civil War. You don't have to know much about the Civil War to be familiar with Robert E. Lee, Ulysses S. Grant, Stonewall Jackson, or William Tecumseh Sherman. *Bull's-Eyes and Misfires*, however, tells the fascinating stories of fifty largely unknown people who dramatically changed the course of the Civil War by their heroic efforts or bungling mistakes. Here are the stories of: Col. George Rains, who used his skill as a businessman to build a gunpowder factory in Augusta, Georgia that was impressive in its efficiency even by modern standards and manufactured nearly three million pounds of powder. The Confederacy lacked many things, but gunpowder was not one of them. Confederate Maj. John Barry ordered the volley that wounded (and eventually killed) Stonewall Jackson at Chancellorsville. One can only speculate how the outcome of the War might have been different had Barry not accidentally shot his own general. Julia Grant, the wife of Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, kept her husband sober and focused by just showing up and living near him before and after nearly every major battle. When she was not around, he drank out of loneliness. When she was around, his Army won battles. Gen. James Wolfe Ripley hated waste so much that he refused to buy modern repeating weapons for the Union Army. He believed soldiers would fire without taking aim. His decision not to distribute superior weapons for at least a year delayed the end of the war.

## **Our Naval and Military Establishments Regarded with Reference to the Dangers of Invasion. From the Journal of the Royal United Service Institution**

This comprehensive survey of the British Navy at a time of technological development was published between 1882 and 1883.

## **The Navy League Annual**

This book looks at the transition of wooden sailing fleets to the modern steel navy. It details the technological breakthroughs that brought about this change - steampower, armour, artillery and torpedoes, and looks at their affect on naval strategy and tactics. Part of the ever-growing and prestigious Warfare and History series, this book is a must for enthusiasts of military history.

## **The American Civil War**

Report of the Minnesota State Horticultural Society

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