

at some point to support themselves and their families, and sought to obtain war pensions to make ends meet.

This narrow focus on the lives of five men does not mean that the book is not well integrated into the literature on the Civil War, however. As Dretske explains, the methodology of microhistory involves “scaling the historical analysis to gain perspective on national events and each man’s personal identity as immigrant, soldier, and American” (2). Dretske keeps the story of these men engaged with the literature on the Civil War throughout, discussing how their experiences fit in with other studies on immigrant participation in the war, mourning practices, war commemoration, and so on. Doing so demonstrates how the experiences of these men fit into and can further illuminate our understanding of these topics.

The book makes a number of major contributions to our understanding of immigration and the Civil War. Despite the relatively large number of immigrants who served in the U.S. Army during the Civil War, there has still been relatively little scholarship about immigrant soldiers and their experiences. There was been very little about British immigrants in particular, making this study especially valuable. The book also furthers our understanding of the daily lived experience of immigrants in the military. Delving so deeply into the experiences of just a few people allows Dretske to bring them to life, returning a human face to a field that can often become dominated by statistics and demonstrating how a study with a local-history focus can illuminate national-level issues.

Iowa and the Civil War, Volume 2: From Iuka to the Red River, 1862–1864, by Kenneth L. Lyftogt. Iowa City: Camp Pope Publishing, 2020. xii, 460 pp. Illustrations, maps, notes, index. \$40 hardcover.

Reviewer William B. Feis is professor of history at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa. He is the author of *“Essentially American”: General Grenville M. Dodge and Family* (2017) and is editing the letters of a soldier from Des Moines who fought with the Second Iowa Volunteer Infantry.

In the second installment of his ambitious multi-volume narrative of *Iowa and the Civil War*, Kenneth L. Lyftogt follows Iowa regiments as they battled Confederate forces (as well as weather and disease) at Shiloh, Iuka, and Corinth in 1862 and at Vicksburg and Chattanooga the following year, rounding out the story with the disastrous Red River Campaign in 1864. In an engaging and fast-paced narrative, the author not only effectively recounts Iowa soldiers’ participation in some of the most important campaigns of the war, he also illuminates the human

side of the story gleaned from the diaries, memoirs, and newspaper accounts written by Iowa soldiers and civilians back home. Lyftogt's deep knowledge of Iowa history and his skillful weaving together of many stories and voices from the battlefield and home front creates a narrative synergy that has become a hallmark of his work. From the 26th Iowa's Private William Royale Oake's description of the fight at Arkansas Post to Senator James W. Grimes's battle to close the "Blue Jug" county jail in Washington, D.C. and the musings of "Miriam," the *nom de guerre* used by Caroline Elliot Kasson in the *Des Moines State Register*, the author does not disappoint. In his battle chapters, which comprise the bulk of the narrative, he expertly traverses a lot of ground without losing the feel of the moment or straying from his essential focus on Iowans and their perspectives on these epoch-making events.

In addition to battles and "Black Flags," Lyftogt includes two very good chapters on the Emancipation Proclamation in which he discusses the context of the document but also seamlessly weaves the thoughts of Iowans at home and in the field into the narrative. For example, his depiction of Gen. Grenville M. Dodge's experiences with "contraband" slaves coming into his lines seeking freedom and how he had to weigh both his military *and* political fortunes against returning or harboring them captures the myriad unforeseen quandaries brought about by Lincoln's proclamation. Dodge's decision to establish a contraband camp and his advocacy of using Black soldiers in the Union Army (the subject of the second Emancipation chapter) are also well told.

The chapter entitled "The Copperhead War" provides a fine overview of the Iowa "Peace" Democrats and their attempt to sway the predominantly Republican state to turn Democratic in the 1862 midterm elections by capitalizing on growing frustration with Union defeats and by stoking racially charged animosity toward emancipation and Blacks among white Iowans. His rendition of the "Skunk River War" pitting Governor Samuel J. Kirkwood against a fiery Baptist preacher named Cyphert Tally is also well worth the read. Lyftogt also covers other interesting figures in Iowa who opposed the war as well as those who tried to muzzle them including such colorful figures as Henry Clay "Dirty Shirt" Dean and the Republican political henchman "Hub" Hoxie. A bevy of Democratic newspaper editors like Dennis Mahoney of the *Dubuque Herald* and David Sheward of the *Fairfield Union and Constitution* also receive attention for their rabid attacks on "Lincoln's War" and, at times, on the soldiers fighting it.

Overall, Lyftogt has produced a solidly researched, well-written, and engaging work that covers a lot of ground succinctly and effectively

without sacrificing the larger meaning of the transcendent events between 1862 and 1864. One issue noted by this reviewer in the first volume—the author’s thin bibliography when it came to more recent Civil War scholarship—has been addressed in this volume and the addition of more recent works has had a significant impact, especially in deepening and contextualizing the chapters on the Emancipation Proclamation. This reviewer very much looks forward to the final volume in the series and the completion of what will undoubtedly be the definitive multi-volume history of Iowa’s Civil War.

Cattle Country: Livestock in the Cultural Imagination, by Kathryn Cornell Dolan. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 2021. xiv, 324 pp. Illustrations, notes, index. \$60.00 hardcover.

Reviewer Maureen Ogle is an historian living in Ames. She is the author of several books including *In Meat We Trust: An Unexpected History of Carnivore America* (2013).

The “symbol of the cow,” writes Kathryn Cornell Dolan, “like Walt Whitman’s narrator, is large and contains multitudes.” Cattle are “the representative U.S. livestock animal” and thus a “useful metaphor for the civilizing idea of the Euro-American settler throughout the nineteenth century” (1, 2). As Americans surged across the continent, they used cattle as a primary weapon in and justification for the removal of Indigenous peoples, the destruction of natural landscapes, and the slaughter of millions of bison. “Agri-expansion,” as she labels it, “privileged Euro-America cultural practices over others” (6).

Dolan, a professor in the Department of English and Technical Communications at Missouri University of Science & Technology, ruminates on cattle as metaphor by analyzing American writers whose works “interrogate the use of cattle, as animal and symbol, for and against the cause of agri-expansion” (233). Her chosen authors range, chronologically, from Washington Irving in the early nineteenth century to Upton Sinclair and Winnifred Eaton in the early twentieth.

Washington Irving, for example, toured parts of the Great Plains (primarily what is now Oklahoma) in the 1830s. He witnessed cattle conquest on the ground and wrote spirited, supportive portrayals of agri-expansion that Dolan describes as a combination of “Leo Marx’s pastoralism with Frederick Jackson Turners’ frontier thesis” (25).

Another chapter examines the works of Sarah Winnemucca Hopkins, a Paiute who lived primarily in California and Nevada. In the late nineteenth century, she was a keen observer of Indigenous people shad-