

Empathetic readers will find reading this work rough sledding, however; disgust may overwhelm them. Unfortunately, given Kutzler's depth of research, outside of Civil War scholars or members of the guild pursuing history of the senses, there may not be a strong general market for *Living by Inches: The Smells, Sounds, Tastes, and Feeling of Captivity in Civil War Prisons*.

Such Anxious Hours: Wisconsin Women's Voices from the Civil War, edited by Jo Ann Daly Carr. Wisconsin Studies in Autobiography. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2019. xiv, 347 pp. Map, illustrations, notes, bibliography, index. \$34.95 hardcover.

Reviewer Ginette Aley is visiting assistant professor of history at Kansas State University and associate editor of *Kansas History: A Journal of the Central Plains*. She co-edited *Union Heartland: The Midwestern Home Front during the Civil War*, published by Southern Illinois University Press in 2013.

"I have no husband now," a despondent young wife, Belle Arnold Sleeper of rural Berlin, Wisconsin, wrote to her brother in April 1865. She continued: "I thought I was prepared for this news but the blow has nearly crushed me," (288) and she saw nothing but darkness ahead. Her letter exposes the depth of anguish upon learning of her soldier husband's death, especially his suffering as a prisoner of war at Libby Prison. It also illustrates how intimately familiar Wisconsin and midwestern women were with the Civil War.

Arnold is one of eight Wisconsin women, ranging in ages from eighteen to forty-three-years old and hailing from six different locales, whose personal writings were collected from several repositories and edited by librarian Jo Ann Daly Carr in *Such Anxious Hours: Wisconsin Women's Voices from the Civil War*. Along with their age range, their perspectives are varied. Some resided in cities and villages, and others lived on farms. They were variously employed in school teaching, sewing, farming, typesetting, and one as an aspiring artist. With a goal of using these writings to create a kind of straight-line narrative of women on the Wisconsin home front, Carr has chosen to organize them into chronological chapters rather than analyze them topically, which in effect limits a deeper understanding of commonalities and differences among them and among midwestern women (one must make constant use of the index to get at this kind of information). This is also hindered by, more problematically, Carr's failure to identify fully and engage the burgeoning regional historiography of midwestern women on the

home front, instead making only repeated general references to northern women.

Where Carr succeeds is in creating a platform for Wisconsin's Civil War era women to add their voices to the tumultuous times that surrounded them. Some of their observations are insightful gems for historians. For example, historians have long sought to know the degree to which mid-nineteenth-century women shared their political views. Ann Waldo observed to her husband in a letter dated February 16, 1862, that "I find it is the very general opinion (among Republicans even) that Lincoln and McClellan are neither of them the right men in the right places" (66). From Waldo's vantage point, by the end of the war's first year apparently some midwesterners had as many concerns about President Lincoln as they did about General McClellan. Similarly, from Madisonite Emily Quiner readers gain insight into the impact at home of the shock and grief over the sudden tragic death of Governor Louis P. Harvey, who drowned in the Tennessee River in April 1862 while leading an effort to get medical supplies to Wisconsin troops wounded at Shiloh. "We all felt a shock of deep sorrow this morning," Quiner wrote, noting that stores and businesses "were all closed and draped in mourning as also the State House" (81). His wife, however, may have been among the last to know. Quiner described how Mrs. Harvey was "on the street when the report came getting subscriptions for the relief of a poor family in town" upon noticing that capitol and court house flags were at half-mast. The news caused her to drop "senseless to the ground" (81).

Carr's volume of Wisconsin women's writings from the home front offers insight about the sense of immediacy experienced by women and localities during the Civil War. The lack of regional historical grounding and analysis reduces its value somewhat and leads to some misstatements by the editor. Nevertheless, Carr's editing efforts and these women's voices represent an invaluable addition to nineteenth-century women's, midwestern, and Civil War era histories.

Iowa Confederates in the Civil War, by David Connon. Mount Pleasant, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2019. 208 pp. Timeline, maps, illustrations, notes, bibliography, index. \$24.99 paperback.

Reviewer Tim Roberts is a professor of history at Western Illinois University. His newest book, "*The Infernal War*": *The Civil War Letters of William and Jane Standard*, was published by Kent State University Press in 2018.