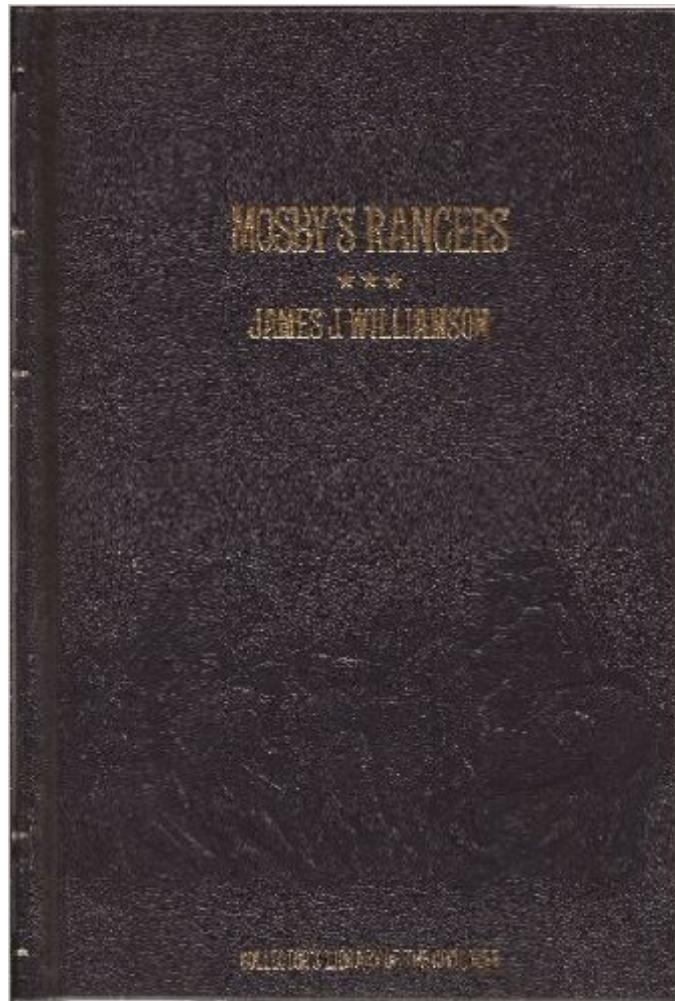


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Mosby's Rangers (Collector's Library Of The Civil War)



Synopsis

This Is A New Release Of The Original 1895 Edition. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Book Information

Series: Collector's Library of the Civil War

Leather Bound: 511 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (5 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

Williamson's account of operations with John Singleton Mosby is simply superb. Fortunately, for the sake of history, Williamson was in the habit of keeping a diary which, along with a compelling literary style, gives a modern immediacy to Mosby's guerrilla operations. Williamson, however, is no simple diarist. He has brilliantly footnoted his account with official orders and letters from both Federal and Confederate commanders and officials. By doing so, Williamson lets us into the thought processes--and frequently the embarrassment, confusion and humiliation--experienced by his enemies. It also gives us the opportunity to compare Mosby claims directly against Federal battle reports. Generally speaking, Mosby seems more credible than his enemies. Mosby was certainly not the first guerrilla leader. Guerrilla warfare has been going on as long as there has been war. In Mosby's hands, however, guerrilla warfare became something of a science. He knew full well that his primary value to the Confederacy was as an irritant to the Federal colossus. With a tiny cadre of soldiers, seldom exceeding 300 in number, he is able to 'tie up' twenty or thirty times his number. Amazingly, despite the fact that the Federals conduct a scorched earth campaign to rid themselves of his nuisance, Mosby time and time again comes out the victor killing, wounding and capturing far more Federal troops than he loses himself. No, it wasn't all roses. Guerrilla warfare, especially in an environment in which the enemy has enormous advantages in manpower, weaponry and logistics

is DANGEROUS. Many of Mosby's men are captured and killed. Despite this Mosby seems to have little problem in attracting additional recruits. Recruits were sometimes more of a problem than a solution.

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