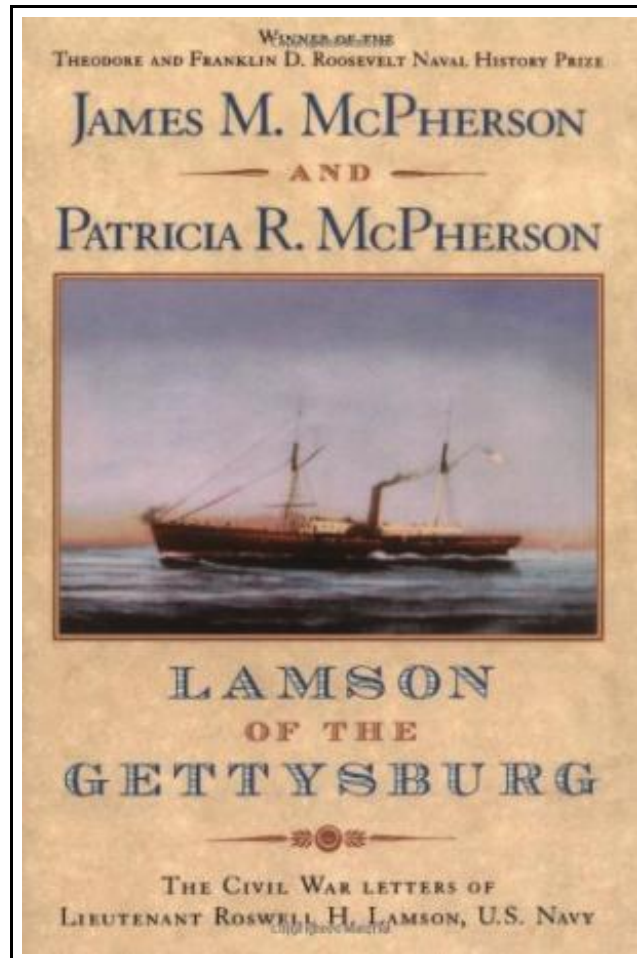


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Oxford University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 272 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 5.7in. x 0.9in. Roswell Lamson was one of the boldest and most skillful young officers in the Union navy. Second in the class of 1862 at Annapolis (he took his final exam while at sea during the war), he commanded more ships and flotillas than any other officer of his age or rank in the service, climaxed by his captaincy of the navys fastest ship in 1864, USS Gettysburg. Now, in Lamson of the Gettysburg, we have the war-time letters of this striking naval figure. Whats more, these are letters of exceptional quality. James M. McPherson, co-editor of the collection with his wife Patricia and one of Americas preeminent Civil War historians, writes that few sets of letters equal and none surpass those of Lamson for richness of description, scope of coverage, or keenness of perception and analysis. Indeed, the McPhersons term Lamsons correspondence the best Civil War navy letters we have ever read or expect to read. Throughout the war, Lamson always seemed to be where the action was on the South Atlantic coast, and these letters describe with striking immediacy the part he played in these events. While serving on the USS Wabash, for instance, he directed the big deck guns that did the most damage to enemy forts at Hatteras Inlet and Port Royal, two major naval victories. He was the officer who took command of the CSS Planter in May 1862, when slaves led by Robert Smalls ran her past Confederate fortifications in Charleston harbor and delivered her to the Union fleet. He commanded a gunboat fleet on the Nansemond River that helped stop James Longstreets advance on Norfolk. In a daring attempt to blow up Fort Fisher, the huge earthwork fortress that guarded...



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