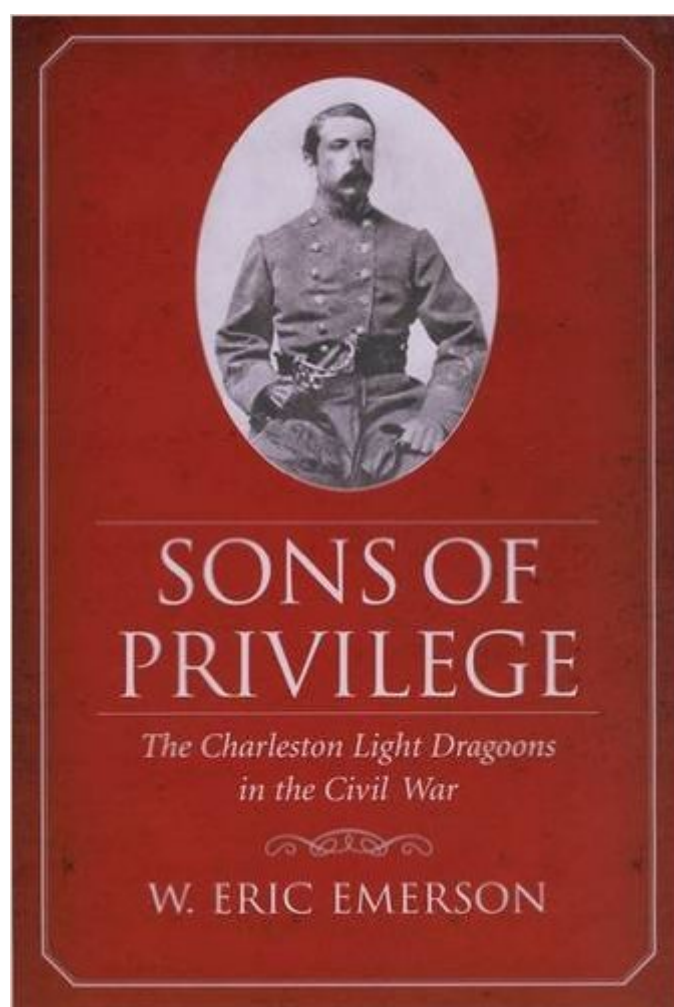


The book was found

# Sons Of Privilege: The Charleston Light Dragoons In The Civil War (Civil War Sesquicentennial Edition) (Civil War Sesquicentennial Edition (University Of South Carolina Press))



## Synopsis

Sons of Privilege traces the wartime experiences of a unique Confederate cavalry unit drawn together from South Carolina's most prestigious families of planters, merchants, and politicians. Examining the military exploits of the Charleston Light Dragoons, W. Eric Emerson finds that the elite status of its membership dictated the terms of the dragoons' service. For much of the war, the dragoons were stationed close to home and faced little immediate danger. As the South's resources waned, however, such deference faded, and the dragoons were thrust into the bloody combat of Virginia. Recounting the unit's 1864 baptism by fire at the Battle of Haw's Shop, Emerson suggests that the dragoons' unrealistic expectations about their military prowess led the men to fight with more bravery than discretion. Thus the unit suffered heavy losses, and by 1865 only a handful survived. Emerson tracks the return of the survivors to ruined homes and businesses, the struggle to rebuild lost fortunes, and the resurrection of exclusive social organizations that would separate them from Charleston's more prosperous newcomers. He chronicles efforts of veterans to reestablish the unit and evaluates the influence of writings by survivors on the postwar veneration of the dragoons.

## Book Information

Series: Civil War Sesquicentennial Edition (University of South Carolina Press)

Paperback: 208 pages

Publisher: University of South Carolina Press (March 1, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 9781611170108

ISBN-13: 978-1611170108

ASIN: 1611170109

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.5 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (4 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #787,486 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #67 in [Books > History > Americas > United States > Civil War > Regimental Histories](#) #440 in [Books > History > Americas > United States > Civil War > Confederacy](#) #7818 in [Books > History > Military > United States](#)

## Customer Reviews

Eric Emerson has taken an in-depth look at a fascinating Confederate unit. The Charleston Light Dragoons were pedigreed men on thoroughbred horses, drawn from Charleston's aristocracy and

assigned to a low-intensity theater on the South Carolina coast for most of the war - until thrown into the meatgrinder in northern Virginia in 1864. Emerson has done a tremendous amount of research and puts it to excellent use giving the reader a fine sense of the world these men lived in. It should be stressed that the CLD's were an anomalous unit; their ranks were so exclusive that men resigned officers' commissions in other units to serve as ordinary enlisted Dragoons, while others served briefly in the Dragoons as a stepping-stone to prestige in other units - a resume-builder, as it were. Emerson demonstrates very well the "privileged" status the title refers to, in the men's flouting of military discipline and natural assumption of social superiority even over fellow Confederate cavalry. He does not, however, denigrate the noblesse-oblige which was the flip side of that privilege, and faithfully chronicles the valiant service the "Drags" would put in when faced with the horrors of late-war campaigns. It would be hard to assert the War was not a "Rich Man's Fight" as well, after any honest look at their battlefield performance and the "butcher's bill" they paid. If this book has a flaw - and you do have to hunt to find one - it is perhaps in an emphasis on "class" which occasionally protests a bit too much.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Sons of Privilege: The Charleston Light Dragoons in the Civil War (Civil War Sesquicentennial Edition) (Civil War Sesquicentennial Edition (University of South Carolina Press)) Our Man in Charleston: Britain's Secret Agent in the Civil War South Butterflies of North Carolina, South Carolina & Georgia: A Guide to Common & Notable Species (Common and Notable Species) Saltwater Fishes of North Carolina, South Carolina & Georgia: A Guide to Inshore & Offshore Species (Quick Reference Guides) Snakes of North Carolina, South Carolina & Georgia: A Guide to Common & Notable Species (Quick Reference Guides) Shells of North Carolina, South Carolina & Georgia: A Beachcomber's Guide to the Atlantic Coast (Common and Notable Species) Decolonizing Museums: Representing Native America in National and Tribal Museums (First Peoples: New Directions in Indigenous Studies (University of North Carolina Press Paperback)) Kershaw's Brigade - volume 1 - South Carolina's Regiments in the American Civil War - Manassas, Seven Pines, Sharpsburg (Antietam), Fredricksburg, ... Fort Sanders & Bean Station. (v. 1) Confederate Charleston: An Illustrated History of the City and the People During the Civil War Truth: The Press, the President, and the Privilege of Power The Heart of Confederate Appalachia: Western North Carolina in the Civil War (Civil War America) The Picayune's Creole Cook Book, Sesquicentennial Edition East Carolina University Football (Images of Sports) Appropriate: The Houses Of Joseph Esherick (Environmental Design Archives at the University of California, Berkeley Series) (Environmental Design Archives ... University of California, Berkeley Series Brown

v. Board of Education: A Civil Rights Milestone and Its Troubled Legacy: Oxford University Press:  
Pivotal Moments in US History Day Light, Night Light: Where Light Comes From  
(Let's-Read-and-Find-Out Science 2) SOUTH CAROLINA What's Great About State (Arcadia Kids) I  
Thought My Soul Would Rise and Fly: The Diary of Patsy, a Freed Girl, Mars Bluff, South Carolina  
1865 (Dear America Series) Echoes From Gettysburg: South Carolina's Memories and Images A  
History of the Second South Carolina Infantry: 1861-1865

[Dmca](#)