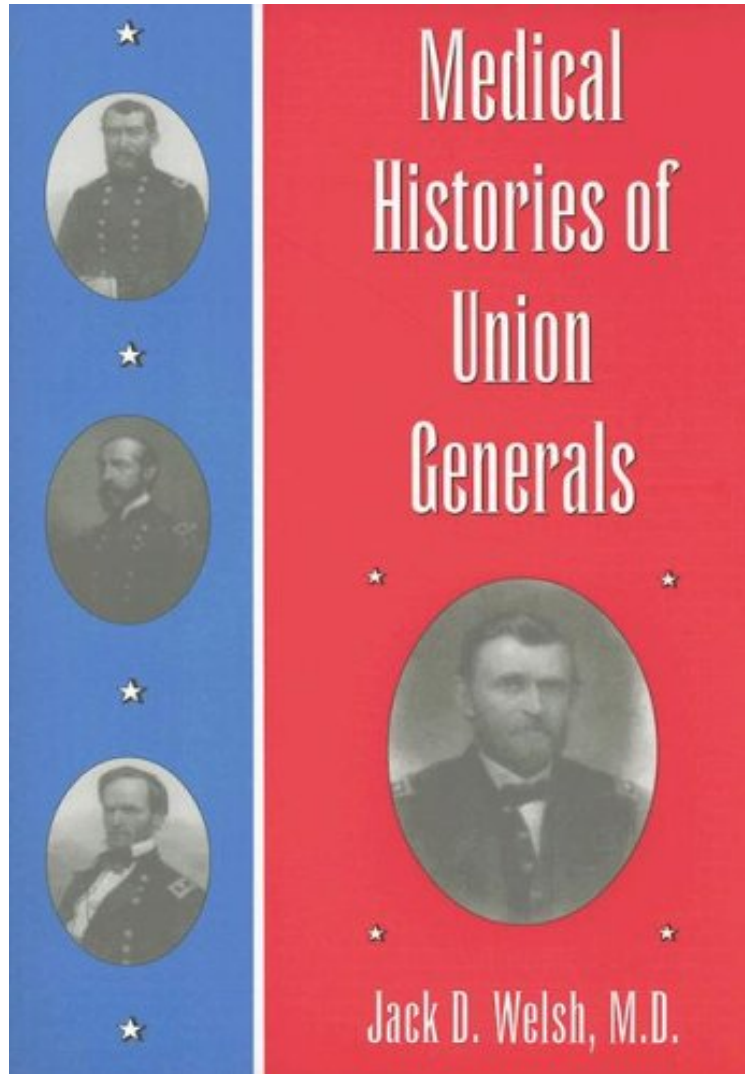


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## Medical Histories of Union Generals

*Jack D. Welsh M.D.*

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**Jack D. Welsh M.D. : Medical Histories of Union Generals** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Medical Histories of Union Generals:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. New spin on Union Generals By James Poepsel Medical Histories of Union Generals while not precisely a page turner (it's best digested in 8-12 page segments), does provide a different view on union generals. When I first obtained the book I naturally cherry-picked some familiar and important generals, then began reading A-Z. Since I've been reading civil war books for approximately 50 years it's a bit hard to surprise me with new information: Medical Histories did manage this feat. What did surprise me? Other than information on some specific generals, I would pick the following: (1) the damage sustained by some of these generals

who lived for many years with what had to be ghastly wounds. I'd assumed that given the state of the medical profession in the mid-19th century someone who lived 30 or 40 years after the war would have to be a hale and hearty old fellow -- not so in many cases. (2) the number of generals injured by their horses (most often when the horse was shot in battle). It should be intuitive that a horse was a much larger target than its' rider, but I just had never connected the dots. (3) the amount of time lost by the generals while recovering from wounds or medical conditions (dysentery, malaria, etc.) that helped explain why so many brigades you read about in battles were commanded by a colonel detached from their regiment. Many officers never actually served in the field after being commissioned general due to their wounds or medical condition and instead spent their time on light-duty assignments or commanding districts.

During the Civil War, the majority of the 583 Union generals studied here were afflicted by disease, injured by accidents, or suffered wounds. Following the war, they often suffered lingering diseases and the effects of unhealed wounds. *Medical Histories of Union Generals* includes a glossary of medical terms as well as a sequence of medical events during the Civil War listing wounds, accidents, and deaths. With his earlier book on Confederate generals, Dr. Welsh has produced a must have reference for medical and military historians.

From the Back Cover Information concerning the medical histories of most Union generals is hard to find and poorly documented. Jack D. Welsh, professor emeritus of medicine at the University of Oklahoma, has examined the medical events that occurred not only during the Civil War but throughout the lives of 583 Union generals. Previously unpublished material from letters, diaries, West Point cadet records, and applications for retirement or a pension provided new additional data and clarification of many medical events, as well as information on their outcome. A number of men had suffered from medical events before the war and three joined the army missing an arm and one missing a leg. During the Civil War, the majority of these Union generals were afflicted by disease, injured by accidents, or suffered wounds. Following the war, they frequently continued to be afflicted by disease and the effects of unhealed wounds. *Medical Histories of Union Generals* includes a glossary of medical terms as well as a sequence of medical events during the Civil War listing wounds, accidents, and deaths.