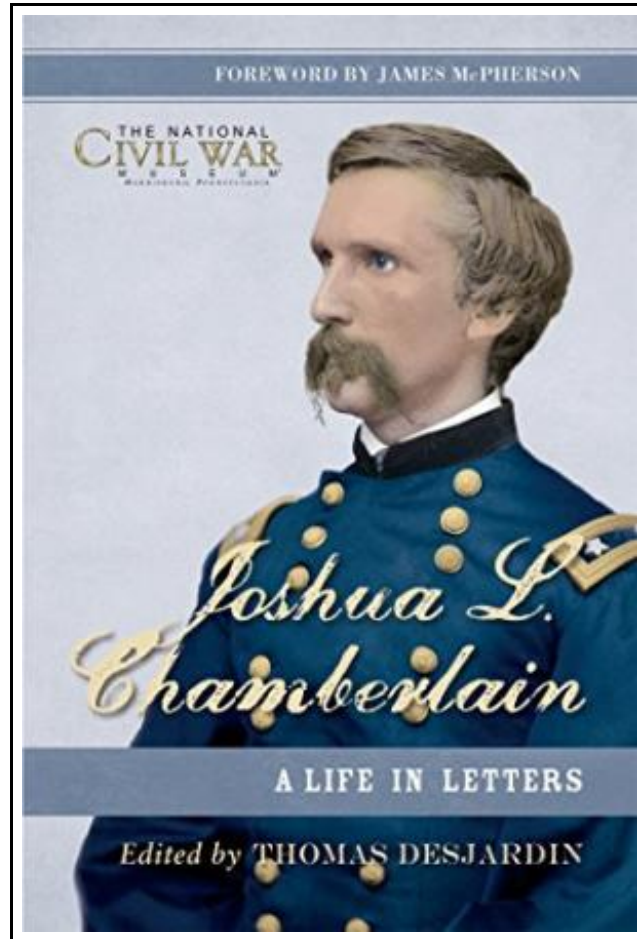


Joshua L. Chamberlain: A Life in Letters



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Reviews

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(Zella Bradtke)

JOSHUA L. CHAMBERLAIN: A LIFE IN LETTERS



Osprey. 1 Cloth(s), 2012. hard. Book Condition: New. Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain (18281914) earned national fame following the Battle of Gettysburg for his key role in fending off the Confederates at Little Round Top on day two of the battle, inspiring a central character in two feature films (Gettysburg and Gods & Generals) and a Pulitzer Prizewinning novel (The Killer Angels), and featuring prominently in Ken Burns's The Civil War. Chamberlain went on to be a Medal of Honor recipient, governor of Maine, and president of Bowdoin College, and his Civil War memoirs are among the most quoted. Here Thomas Desjardin, the former archivist at Gettysburg National Military Park and a historical advisor to both films, turns to the personal side of Chamberlain through a collection of 300 letters spanning his life, from his formative years and his courtship with Fanny Adams through his career as a Union commander and the aftermath of the war. "The bayonet brought Joshua Chamberlain lasting fame, but his pen is why he should be remembered. His beautifully crafted letters convey a deep and resilient love for Union that sustained him in the ranks. While soldiers on both sides succumbed to the brutal indifference of military life, ideas shielded Chamberlain's soul, preventing him from becoming a cold and callous veteran. The exceptional correspondence contained in Joshua L. Chamberlain: A Life in Letters brings us down from the hero-worshiping altar of Little Round Top to the ground level of war where the Civil War's most famous Union colonel managed to find higher meaning in the daily struggles of trying to survive a bloody Civil War." Peter S. Carmichael "Given that the past 25 years have seen Joshua L. Chamberlain rise in popularity to almost mythic proportions, this wonderful collection of his previously unknown and unpublished personal letters will be...



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