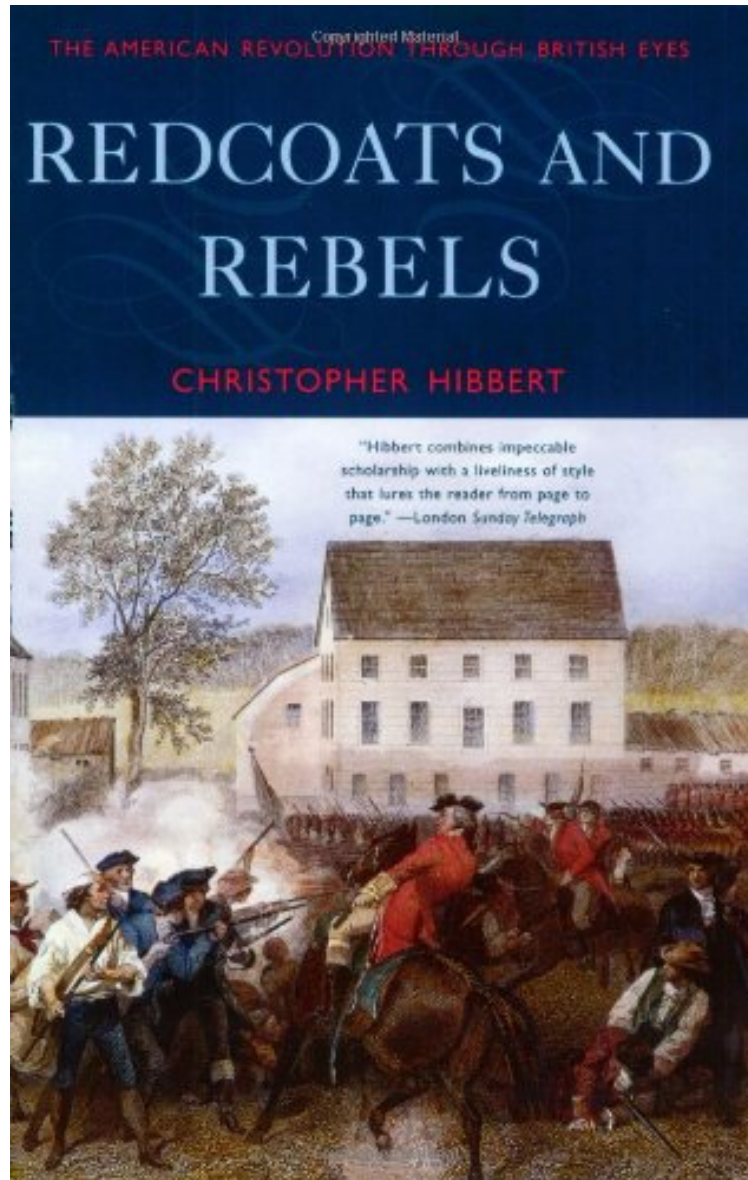


(Ebook pdf) Redcoats and Rebels: The American Revolution Through British Eyes

Redcoats and Rebels: The American Revolution Through British Eyes

Christopher Hibbert

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#748101 in Books Christopher Hibbert 2002-04-17 2013-01-23 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.20 x 1.10 x 5.60L, .77 #File Name: 0393322939412 pages Redcoats and Rebels The American Revolution through British Eyes | File size: 78.Mb

Christopher Hibbert : Redcoats and Rebels: The American Revolution Through British Eyes before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Redcoats and Rebels: The American Revolution Through British Eyes:

23 of 23 people found the following review helpful. With Apologies to the Author...By Mcgovern Owen L This reviewer made an erroneous initial assumption about "Redcoats and Rebels": He thought that since RR was authored by a Brit that the final product would be a snide, avuncular, anti-American treatment of the Revolutionary War. Wrong! Nothing could be further from the truth. Author Hibbert is far tougher on his fellow countrymen than on the American colonists. With the author's able retrospect, one could almost state that the British effort was doomed from the start. Among the factors burdening the British Army were the following: Uncertain military leadership made worse by some truly surprising infighting. Difficulty raising a sufficient number of troops to fight a foreign war in a large, distant colony Very poor communication among the commanders (John Burgoyne, William Howe, Henry Clinton) once they encamped in America The mistaken impression that many American Loyalists would rally under the Union Jack. Relatively few did. What this reviewer would term concentration on the "good life". General Burgoyne took 30 carts (!) of personal goods on his fateful trek to Saratoga. And during the fateful Winter of 1777-1778, General Howe remained closeted in the comforts of Philadelphia-with his mistress! Not 30 miles away, Washington's men were enduring the cruel season at Valley Forge. Why didn't Howe attack? The Brits allowed themselves to be trapped in a war of attrition in which they won most battles but were sucked dry. Lukewarm support for and even opposition to the war effort in Parliament. Author Hibbert lays bare all of these factors squarely for the reader to absorb. The author has little use for the squabbling, halting British leadership; only Charles Cornwallis receives his due. Yet Cornwallis was hung out to dry by his boss, General Clinton, to be trapped on that peninsula on the York River: "Cornwallis surrenders at Yorktown". A review of RR would not be complete without due mention to the MAPS! Most military works treat such as historical stepchildren; here they are quite useful, placed strategically throughout the text. Also, poignant quotes head each chapter. The most remarkable is from American General Nathanael Green: "We fight, get beat, rise and fight again". If the author truly believes, as he seems to, that England lost the War as much as the Americans won it, that is fair enough for this reviewer. RR is highly rated historical reading for anyone seeking a fresh view on the Revolutionary War.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Very interesting American history that I was deficient in.By T. SterneA very excellent history of the American Revolution from the British and American perspectives. It gives one a very detailed perspective of the flow and battles of the Revolution. Because photography did not yet exist in the late 18th century, I have tended to ignore the details of our Revolution in favor of our four score years later Civil War which was well photographed with the exception of actual battles. So this brought a much appreciated increase in my knowledge of our Revolution.5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Good but uneven and could use more mapsBy retired momHibbert does try to explain battles using geographic references but his maps don't back it up. I thought good work on Gen Clinton and the campaigns in the south but less concise on the northern or central campaigns.

"Outstanding...Hibbert has an eye for character and a gift for bringing to life the impact of small-minded incompetents on the wide sweep of history." Associated Press The story of this war has usually been told in terms of a conflict between blundering British generals and their rigidly disciplined red-coated troops on the one side and heroic American patriots in their homespun shirts and coonskin caps on the other. In this fresh, compelling narrative, Christopher Hibbert portrays the realities of a war that raged the length of an entire continent a war that thousands of George Washington's fellow countrymen condemned and that he came close to losing. Based on a wide variety of sources and alive with astute character sketches and eyewitness accounts, Redcoats and Rebels presents a vivid and convincing picture of the "cruel, accursed" war that changed the world forever. 16 pages of illustrations. "Hibbert combines impeccable scholarship with a liveliness of style that lures the reader from page to page." Sunday Telegraph 16 pages of illustrations.

From Publishers Weekly British historian Hibbert's narrative of the War of Independence from the British and Loyalist viewpoint is lively, beautifully written and freshly informative. Tracing events from the colonists' unexpected outrage over the 1765 Stamp Act to the Treaty of Paris in 1783, he describes the bitter foreign policy debates in London and the escalating logistic difficulties of supporting a war in North America while conducting far-flung campaigns against the French and Spanish as well. In his evenhanded account of operations from Canada to the Carolinas, Hibbert analyzes British attempts to achieve a unified strategy against the rebels, and brings into focus the ideological confusion and political disunity that hampered the American cause throughout the eight-year struggle. The author lays more stress on French intervention in accounting for the ultimate American triumph than our historians are wont to do. He also points out that the 1781 battle of Coppers was one of the few times the Redcoats were tactically outwitted. Photos. Copyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc. From School Library Journal YA-- The story of our struggle for independence from the Boston Tea Party to Cornwallis's surrender at Yorktown is among the most familiar in American history. The key events and personalities have been described in popular fiction, history, and movies. Hibbert's unusual and interesting book takes readers through the familiar chronology from the English point of view. The result deepens one's appreciation of the obstacles that faced the British in their attempts to maintain control of North America. Their strategy and tactics are especially understandable when presented in this context. The blunders

of English decision-makers in both the government and the army are given the prominence they deserve. Sam Adams and George Washington appear briefly as their enemies saw them. British leaders appear as complete figures with both flaws and strengths. By providing the often overlooked side of an important and commonly told story, this book offers new insights and pleasurable reading.- Paul Haskell, Edison High School, Alexandria, VACopyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.From Library JournalThis popular account of the American Revolution has many virtues. Hibbert is a proven writer of dramatic, personal history. An Englishman, he gives equal weight to the politics, policies, and personalities of the court of George III. He explains not just how America won its war for independence, but why Britain lost it. His stirring treatment of battles and marches is based on recent research that minimizes patriotic idealism, stressing instead the difficulties of maintaining a professional army in a republican society. All military and Revolution buffs will appreciate this well-written work--and they'll learn something new. --Harry W. Fritz, Univ. of Montana, MissoulaCopyright 1990 Reed Business Information, Inc.