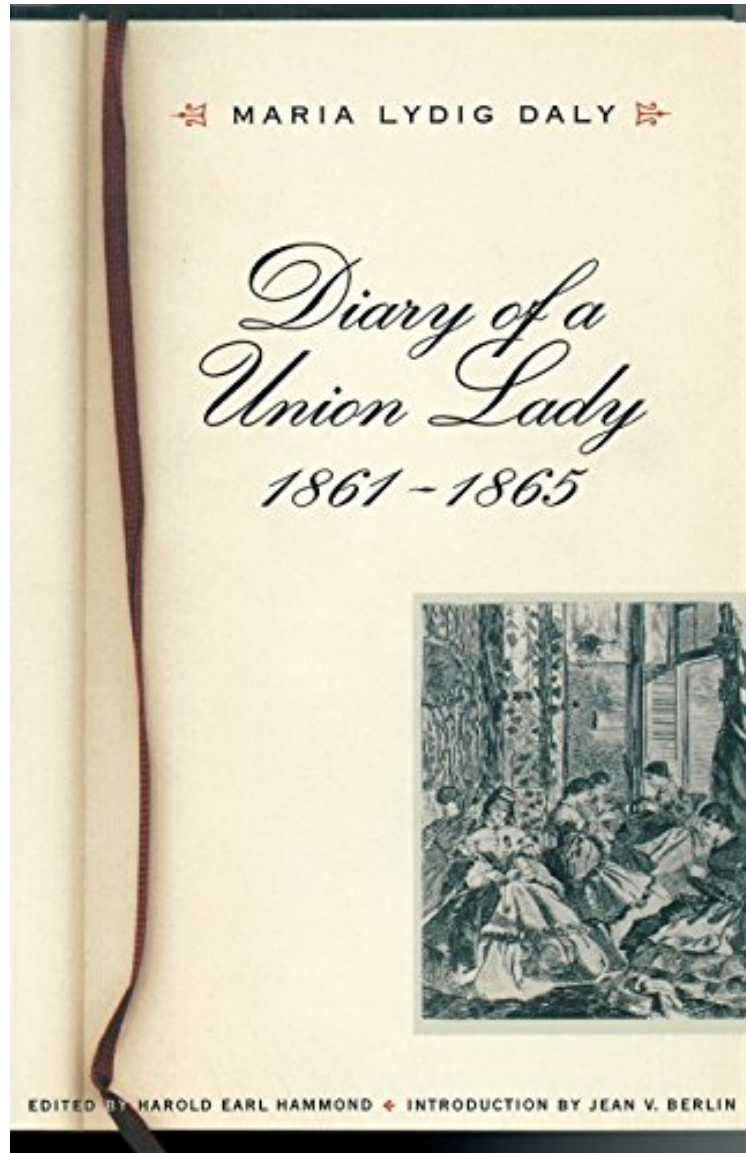


(Download) Diary of a Union Lady, 1861-1865

Diary of a Union Lady, 1861-1865

Maria Lydig Daly

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Maria Lydig Daly : Diary of a Union Lady, 1861-1865 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Diary of a Union Lady, 1861-1865:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Love this bookBy Jennifer L. TheissenLove this book! Mary Daley is a very interesting individual. If you want a glimps into to New York high society at the time of the Civil War, this is a GREAT book for you!3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Engaging book, preachy introductionBy Alexandra GriggsMaria Lydig Daly seems to have had an opinion about just about anything and did not hold back

from sharing them in her diary. Sometimes she's just dead wrong, other times she issues a telling observation. We need all we can get about Northern women, and this diary testifies to their diversity of voices. However, as for the introduction, what's got Jean Berlin in a snit? The introduction is preachy and sanctimonious, and that's the good part. Maybe she had better go to Tiffany's and mingle with the people she mocks.

Rumor, gossip, and innuendo are the weapons of the home front, and no one wielded them with quite the aplomb of Maria Lydig Daly. Her richly detailed comments on everything from inept Union generals to Dorothea Dix's appearance provide the liveliest memoir to emerge from a Northern noncombatant. Daly was the wife of a prominent New York City judge whose connections allowed her to meet many major figures involved in Northern military and diplomatic strategy. Despite catty comments about Mrs. Lincoln and less-than-flattering appraisals of Union generalship, Daly could be sympathetic toward the suffering of the soldiers. She noted the fear with which many viewed the draft, seeing it as a terrible incursion on liberty, but she understood that the times called for severe measures.

"Her diary, a notch better than history, is life—a minute, intimate, hilarious self-portrait. . . . [She is] irritable, querulous, censorious, self-centered, and idle, but not bad-hearted."—New Yorker