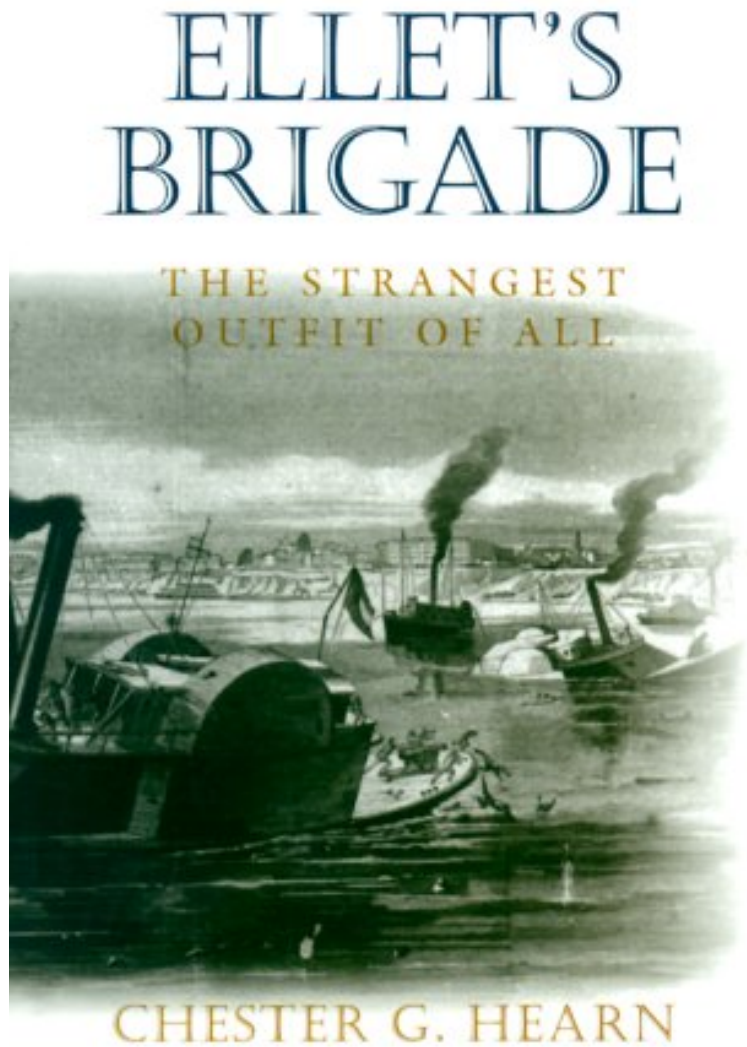


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## Ellet's Brigade: The Strangest Outfit of All

*Chester G. Hearn*

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1 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A Piece of Family HistoryBy Richard BloomerThis review is not about style or writing ability. It is simply about the fact that my Great Grandfather served in the Mississippi Marine Brigade and then in the 9th Marines, prior to ending up in the Indiana Volunter Infantry as a part of the Army of

Cumberland. I had wondered about this for years. Was my Great Grandfather a leatherneck? Why would he travel from Northern Ohio to St. Louis to join the fight? What made this outfit different from the units his brothers joined in Ohio and Michigan? Why was he issued tools to build barracks at Vicksburg? This is a fascinating story of a little-known unit that eventually became the forerunner of the task-organized special forces units of today. It's not just about Ellet and his vision, it tells me something about my forefather.0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy William A. GriffithExcellent Price and Quickly Shipped !0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy happynerkyCHRISTMAS PRESENT

Soon after the start of the Civil War, during the naval buildup on the central Mississippi River, celebrated civil engineer Charles Ellet, Jr., formed the Ram Fleet under U.S. secretary of war Edwin M. Stanton. Perhaps the most bizarre unit organized by the Union, the rams were shunned by both the army and navy as superfluous instruments of war. However, on June 6, 1862, they proved their worth by defeating the Confederate River Defense Fleet ironclads at Memphis while the U.S. Navy simply watched. In this lively study, Chester G. Hearn details the formation and wartime exploits of Ellet's fleet, reviving the history of this fascinating but forgotten brigade.

About the AuthorChester G. Hearn is the author of many books on the Civil War, including *Gray Raiders of the Sea*; *The Capture of New Orleans, 1862*; *When the Devil Came Down to Dixie: Ben Butler in New Orleans*; and *Six Years of Hell: Harpers Ferry During the Civil War*. He lives in Erie, Pennsylvania.