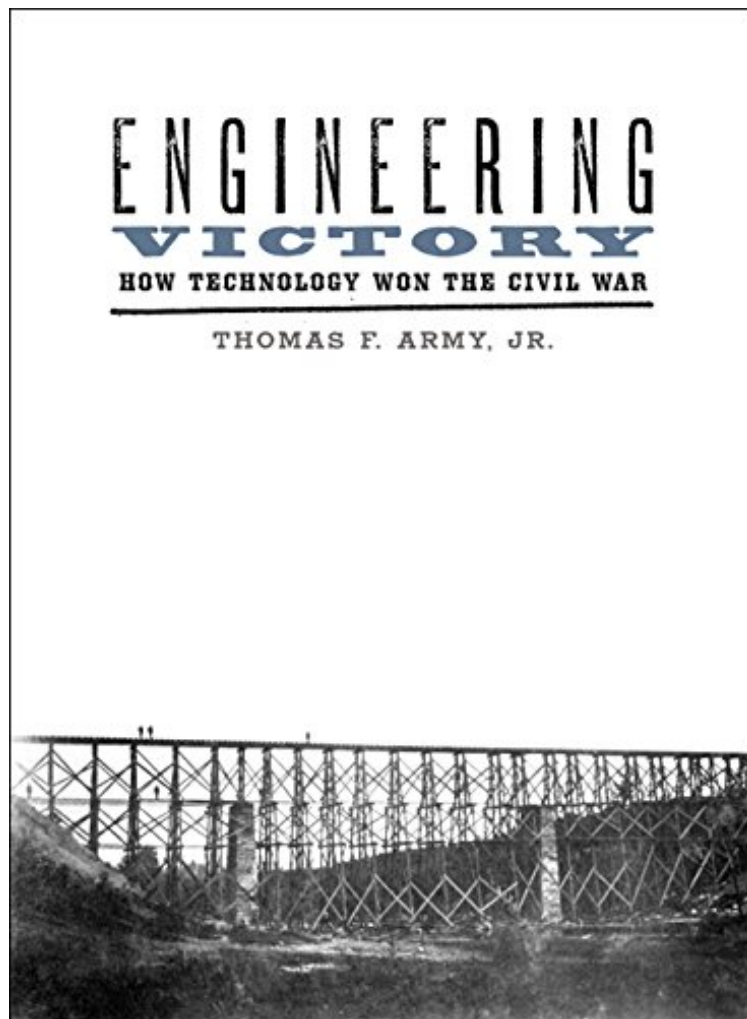


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Engineering Victory: How Technology Won the Civil War (Johns Hopkins Studies in the History of Technology)

Thomas F. Army Jr.

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Thomas F. Army Jr. : Engineering Victory: How Technology Won the Civil War (Johns Hopkins Studies in the History of Technology) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Engineering Victory: How Technology Won the Civil War (Johns Hopkins Studies in the History of Technology):

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. A very worthwhile read. In addition to the detailed ...By TomA very worthwhile read. In addition to the detailed description of how much of the logistics of the war was carried out, I was

particularly impressed by the logic of how slavery itself led to the loss by the Confederates. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. How an Industrious Society Defeated an Aristocracy By M.J. Flynn Thomas Army provides a good argument for how technology won the Civil War. But his more convincing argument isn't that the industrial might of the North defeated the South. Rather, the industrious members of the a free society (engineers, mechanics, and so forth) defeated a petty aristocracy that had disdain for those who worked with their hands. As a practicing satellite communications systems engineer, I had to go back to my collage days to remember what gabions, revetments, and lunettes are. I loved the maps and the illustrations. Both the North and the South had railroads. You can read for yourself how, in the South, the individual railroad companies in the South would not contribute to the war effort without being paid (not that the Northern railroads weren't paid) and that their precious States Rights kept them from having a unified command. A good book to read after reading this book is Stephen Ambrose's, "Nothing Like It in the World: The Men Who Built the Transcontinental Railroad". One complaint - the font is very small. Good luck with that. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Waste of Money. By Russell T. This is without question the worst book I ever picked up (or paid for). It is not, as the title indicates, a book about various technology. It is a compilation of the author's opinion of the contribution of the train systems to the war effort with a liberal sprinkling of subjective comments regarding the superior intelligence of the Union Army. I wish I could have given it a lower rating but there wasn't one.

Engineering Victory brings a fresh approach to the question of why the North prevailed in the Civil War. Historian Thomas F. Army, Jr., identifies strength in engineering?not superior military strategy or industrial advantage?as the critical determining factor in the war's outcome. Army finds that Union soldiers were able to apply scientific ingenuity and innovation to complex problems in a way that Confederate soldiers simply could not match. Skilled Free State engineers who were trained during the antebellum period benefited from basic educational reforms, the spread of informal educational practices, and a culture that encouraged learning and innovation. During the war, their rapid construction and repair of roads, railways, and bridges allowed Northern troops to pass quickly through the forbidding terrain of the South as retreating and maneuvering Confederates struggled to cut supply lines and stop the Yankees from pressing any advantage. By presenting detailed case studies from both theaters of the war, Army clearly demonstrates how the soldiers' education, training, and talents spelled the difference between success and failure, victory and defeat. He also reveals massive logistical operations as critical in determining the war's outcome.

"Highly recommended." (Choice)"A thoughtful treatise on an important subject related to war, culture, and society, Engineering Victory is highly recommended reading." (Civil War Books and Authors)"Army's description of Union Army engineers and their accomplishments is certainly thorough and impressive. He relates numerous examples of how the effective use of engineers led to victory while an ineffective application led to defeat." (The Michigan Historical)"Thomas Army Jr. has produced an interesting and thought-provoking study of military engineering in the Civil War with which students of the war, logistics, and technology will have to reckon." (Civil War Book)"... Army has made a major contribution to the understanding of how engineering and technology played a vital role in Union victory. Every scholar interested in the Civil War, the Union war effort, and the history of technology should grapple with his arguments and their implications." (The Journal of Southern History)"A comprehensive, highly erudite history of military engineering in the Civil War, Engineering Victory should become the standard work against which all others are measured." (Michael C. C. Adams, Northern Kentucky University, author of Living Hell: The Dark Side of the Civil War)From the Back Cover Engineering Victory brings a fresh approach to the question of why the North prevailed in the Civil War. Historian Thomas F. Army, Jr., identifies strength in engineering?not superior military strategy or industrial advantage?as the critical determining factor in the war's outcome. Army finds that Union soldiers were able to apply scientific ingenuity and innovation to complex problems in a way that Confederate soldiers simply could not match. Skilled Free State engineers who were trained during the antebellum period benefited from basic educational reforms, the spread of informal educational practices, and a culture that encouraged learning and innovation. During the war, their rapid construction and repair of roads, railways, and bridges allowed Northern troops to pass quickly through the forbidding terrain of the South as retreating and maneuvering Confederates struggled to cut supply lines and stop the Yankees from pressing any advantage. By presenting detailed case studies from both theaters of the war, Army clearly demonstrates how the soldiers' education, training, and talents spelled the difference between success and failure, victory and defeat. He also reveals massive logistical operations as critical in determining the war's outcome."Highly recommended."? Choice"A thoughtful treatise on an important subject related to war, culture, and society, Engineering Victory is highly recommended reading."? Civil War Books and Authors"Army's description of Union Army engineers and their accomplishments is certainly thorough and impressive. He relates numerous examples of how the effective use of engineers led to victory while an ineffective application led to defeat."? The Michigan Historical "An interesting and thought-provoking study of military engineering in the Civil War with which students of the war, logistics, and technology will have to reckon."? Civil War Book About the Author Thomas F.

Army, Jr., is an adjunct assistant professor of history at Quinebaug Valley Community College.