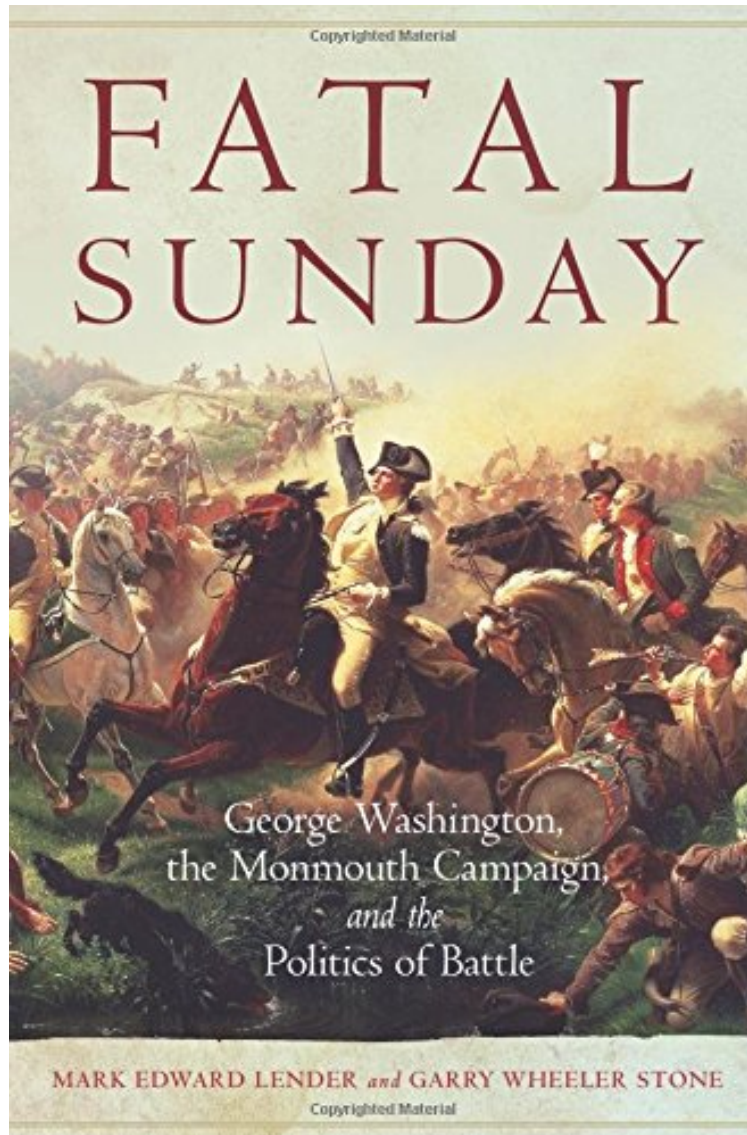


(Ebook pdf) Fatal Sunday: George Washington, the Monmouth Campaign, and the Politics of Battle (Campaigns and Commanders Series)

## Fatal Sunday: George Washington, the Monmouth Campaign, and the Politics of Battle (Campaigns and Commanders Series)

Mark Edward Lender, Garry Wheeler Stone Ph.D  
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Mark Edward Lender, Garry Wheeler Stone Ph.D : Fatal Sunday: George Washington, the Monmouth Campaign, and the Politics of Battle (Campaigns and Commanders Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Fatal Sunday: George Washington, the Monmouth Campaign, and the Politics of Battle (Campaigns and Commanders Series):

9 of 10 people found the following review helpful. The battle of Monmouth--told in great detailBy Steven PetersonThe battle of Monmouth took place on a blazing hot Sunday, June 28, 1778. On the one hand, it was a relatively modest fight--the British rear guard against a force sent by George Washington to give battle if the situation was propitious. Tactically, not necessarily of great import. But strategically? It provided justification for George Washington to continue serving as Commander-in-Chief. It heartened the patriot cause, and boosted the morale of Washington's forces. In short, the whole may have been greater than the sum of its parts.The background: British commanding general, Henry Clinton, had been headquartered in Philadelphia after the British army had captured the Americans' capital. The victory was somewhat barren, however, and it was decided that the British forces, including German troops and Tories, should return to New York. Some forces traveled by ship; the bulk of Clinton's army marched from Philadelphia to New York.The forces of Washington had spent a hard winter in Valley Forge.. However, the German von Steuben had "coached up" the colonial troops over the winter. They were a better trained body than before.Washington left Valley Forge on June 18, 1778. He wished to, if possible, develop a battle against Clinton's army. The American army shadowed the retreating British horde. Near Monmouth, Washington took action. He sent an advance force under Charles Lee to--if sensible--engage the British rear guard. Lee engaged in battle, and here the book portrays Lee somewhat differently in other renderings of this battle. Makes for some provocative thinking, although Lee did not end up being portrayed positively in the aftereffects of the battle. In the end, the American forces rallied and treated the British rear guard somewhat roughly. The battle would probably be best described as a draw--with the Americans gaining more from the draw as the British.This a well told history of this conflict. We get a good sense of key players on both sides of the field. We also come to be aware of the political side of a rear guard action.All in all, a satisfying tale of a battle that was more important than one might have guessed from a "rear guard action."0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A reasonable look at a complex subjectBy Robert KrenzleFatal Sunday is a well-researched and balanced study of the Monmouth Campaign of 1778. It takes advantage of the latest archaeological research, and a skeptical examination of previous scholarly research, to peel back much of the mythology surrounding this important chapter in the story of the American Revolution.Part of this work is an hour-by-hour, and sometimes minute-by-minute, narrative of the battle. I must admit that it took me sitting down and comparing the convenient timeline with several of the maps to be able to say I understood the sequence of events in time and space.Perhaps more importantly the book seeks to rehabilitate the reputation of Major General Charles Lee, Washington's second-in-command. The authors argue convincingly that Lee performed well given the circumstances, but that his lack of tact and political savvy cost him afoul of General Washington. Lee made a convenient foil; Lee the villain enhanced the reputation of Washington the "indispensable man."Ultimately Monmouth was a tactical draw which Washington turned into a decisive political and strategic victory.The Monmouth of popular memory would be unrecognizable to the participants. Fatal Sunday brings us a little closer to that blistering day in June when armies clashed under the New Jersey sun.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Impeccably researched and beautifully written - this is a must-read for Revolutionary War buffs.By D. FelixThis is a detailed examination of the events, characters and politics that led up to one of the most important battles of the Revolution.I was interested in the subject, because we live near the battlefield. I thought this might be a rather dry read - but it's riveting.The book is well researched and very well written - I'd recommend it to anyone interested in the era.

Historians have long considered the Battle of Monmouth one of the most complicated engagements of the American Revolution. Fought on Sunday, June 28, 1778, Monmouth was critical to the success of the Revolution. It also marked a decisive turning point in the military career of George Washington. Without the victory at Monmouth Courthouse, Washington's critics might well have marshaled the political strength to replace him as the American commander-in-chief. Authors Mark Edward Lender and Garry Wheeler Stone argue that in political terms, the Battle of Monmouth constituted a pivotal moment in the War for Independence. Viewing the political and military aspects of the campaign as inextricably entwined, this book offers a fresh perspective on Washington's role in it. Drawing on a wide range of historical sources—many never before used, including archaeological evidence—Lender and Stone disentangle the true story of Monmouth and provide the most complete and accurate account of the battle, including both American and British perspectives. In the course of their account it becomes evident that criticism of Washington's performance in command was considerably broader and deeper than previously acknowledged. In light of long-standing practical and ideological questions about his vision for the Continental Army and his ability to win the war, the outcome at Monmouth—a hard-fought tactical draw—was politically insufficient for Washington. Lender and Stone show how the general's partisans, determined that the battle for public opinion would be won in his favor, engineered a propaganda victory for their chief that involved the spectacular court-martial of Major General Charles Lee, the second-ranking officer of the Continental Army. Replete with poignant anecdotes, folkloric incidents, and stories of heroism and combat brutality; filled with behind-the-scenes action and intrigue; and teeming with characters from all walks of life, Fatal Sunday gives us the definitive view of the fateful Battle of Monmouth.

“This is a superb study, large in scope, detailed in content, and insightful in all that it considers. Based on massive

research that ranges in depth across a variety of sources, Mark Lender and Garry Wheeler Stone have provided a broad and subtle history that ranks with the best written on the Revolutionary War. A marvelous book.”—Robert Middlekauff, author of *Washington’s Revolution: The Making of America’s First Leader* and *The Glorious Cause: The American Revolution, 1763–1789*