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Ida Powell Dulany

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Ida Powell Dulany : In the Shadow of the Enemy: The Civil War Journal of Ida Powell Dulany (Voices of the Civil War) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised In the Shadow of the Enemy: The Civil War Journal of Ida Powell Dulany (Voices of the Civil War):

12 of 12 people found the following review helpful. An elegant written accountBy Midwest Book ReviewIt is often through the journals and diaries of ordinary people that we get the truest 'window in time' with respects to the events of history and the daily lives of the men and women who lived through them. Publishing such memoirs does critically important service for historians and for non-specialist general readers with an interest in history. Such is clearly the case with respect to "In The Shadow Of The Enemy: The Civil War Journal Of Ida Powell Dulany", the latest addition to the outstanding 'Voices of the Civil War' series published by the University of Tennessee Press. Deftly co-edited by the team of Mary L. Mackall, Stevan Meserve, and Anne Mackall Sasscer, "In The Shadow Of The Enemy" is a contemporary chronicle kept by Ida Powell Dulany who was mistress of a salve-holding estate and charged with the responsibility for its day-to-day operations when her husband enlisted with the Confederates shortly after the outbreak of the civil war. An elegant written account, "In The Shadow Of The Enemy" provides an informative perspective on how her neighbors and community conducted themselves amidst the turmoil and tribulations that war was to bring them -- including numerous direct confrontations with hostile Union troops. Of special note and value for the reader

are the five appendices the editors have provided giving some outline and background providing additional context for the journal entries of Ida Powell Dulany. Enhanced with extensive notes and an index, "In The Shadow Of The Enemy" is a welcome and highly recommended addition to personal, academic, and community library American Civil War and 19th Century American Biography collections and supplemental reading lists.

The Piedmont area of Loudoun and Fauquier Counties, Virginia, near the Maryland border, was hotly contested throughout the Civil War. In *In The Shadow of the Enemy* vividly chronicles one elite woman's experiences on the home front of this dangerous locale. The mistress of a slave-holding estate, Ida Powell Dulany took over control of the extensive family lands once her husband left to fight for the Confederacy. She struggled to manage slaves, maintain contact with her neighbors, and keep up her morale after her region was abandoned by the Confederate government soon after the beginning of hostilities. More than just an elegantly written account of her own day-to-day experiences in the Civil War, Ida's journal also shows us much about how her community dealt with extreme conditions. It opens a window into the Southern culture of the time, demonstrating the importance of community, the locals' unwavering faith in God and the righteousness of the Confederate cause, and their universal demonizing of Union soldiers. On a personal level, Ida's writings reveal a courageous woman who, despite her vulnerability and isolation, refused to be intimidated in numerous confrontations with Union soldiers. The editors' introduction explains how Ida's background shaped her and discusses her marriage to Hal Dulany, which was an atypical relationship for the time-one in which Hal viewed Ida as an intelligent partner. They also provide a brief overview of the relevant military history, including an examination of the role of the "Gray Ghost," John S. Mosby, in the area. To put Ida's writings into further context, the editors have interspersed helpful timelines throughout the diary, highlighting the key events that occurred over the course of the larger conflict. A fascinating addition to the *Voices of the Civil War* series, this new book is sure to appeal not only to scholars and students of the era but also to women's history specialists, genealogists, and local historians. Mary Le Jeune Mackall spent her early years at Blenheim, a pre-Revolutionary farm near Charlottesville, which inspired her lifelong interest in Virginia history. She and her husband divide their time between Alexandria and Selby, the family farm in Fauquier County, Virginia, where they are engaged in planting native grasses, restoring streams, and operating an environmentally sensitive farming operation.

About the Author Mary Le Jeune Mackall spent her early years at Blenheim, a pre-Revolutionary farm near Charlottesville, which inspired her lifelong interest in Virginia history. She and her husband divide their time between Alexandria and Selby, the family farm in Fauquier County, Virginia, where they are engaged in planting native grasses, restoring streams, and operating an environmentally sensitive farming operation. Stevan F. Meserve has written extensively for several Civil War publications, including *North and South*, *Civil War Magazine*, and *Civil War News*. He is the author of *The Civil War in Loudoun County, Virginia: A History of Hard Times*. Anne Mackall Sasscer grew up on Selby, a family farm near The Plains, Virginia, the home of Ida Powell Dulany's youngest daughter. She writes family history and genealogy for her children and seven grandchildren. She is a strong believer in Historic Preservation and has worked on projects including the restoration of historic Trinity Episcopal Church in Upper Marlboro, Maryland and the restoration of a family house in the old village of Marlboro where she and her husband are living.