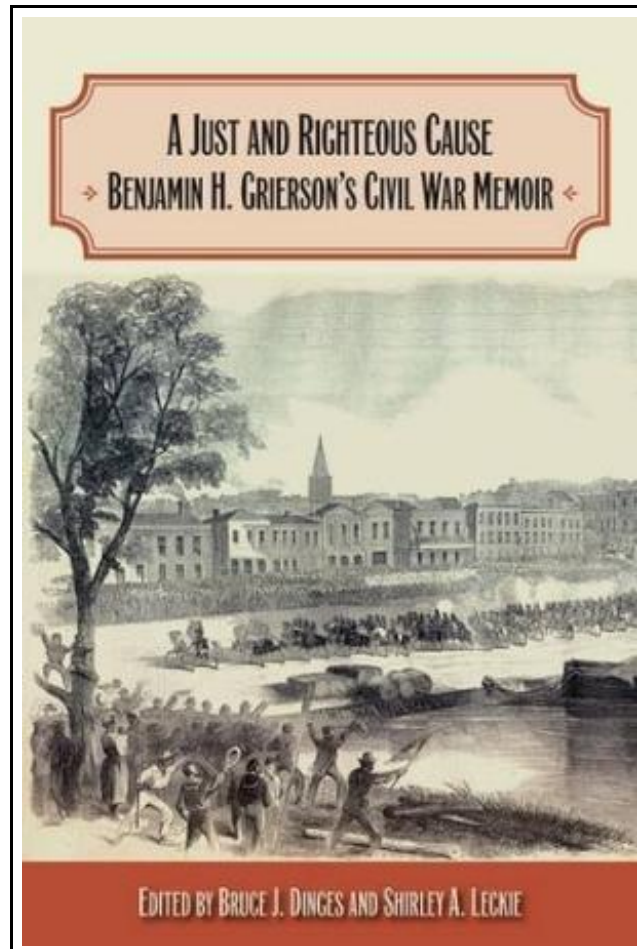


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Southern Illinois University Press, United States, 2016. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Reprint. 235 x 156 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. General Benjamin H. Grierson is most widely known as the brilliant cavalryman whose actions in the Civil War s Mississippi Valley campaign facilitated Ulysses S. Grant s capture of Vicksburg. There is, however, much more to this key Union officer than a successful raid into Confederate-held Mississippi. In *A Just and Righteous Cause: Benjamin H. Grierson s Civil War Memoir*, edited by Bruce J. Dinges and Shirley A. Leckie, Grierson tells his story in forceful, direct, and highly engaging prose. *A Just and Righteous Cause* paints a vivid picture of Grierson s prewar and Civil War career, touching on his antislavery views, Republican Party principles, and military strategy and tactics. His story begins with his parents immigration to the United States and follows his childhood, youth, and career as a musician; the early years of his arriage; his business failures prior to becoming a cavalry officer in an Illinois regiment; his experiences in battle; and his Reconstruction appointment. Grierson also provides intimate accounts of his relationships with such prominent politicians and Union leaders as Abraham Lincoln, Richard Yates, Andrew Johnson, William T. Sherman, Ulysses S. Grant, John C. Fremont, and Benjamin Prentiss. Because Grierson wrote the memoir mainly with his family as the intended audience, he manages to avoid the self-promotion that plagues many of his contemporaries chronicles. His reliance on military records and correspondence, along with family letters, lends an immediacy rarely found in military memoirs. His reminiscences also add fuel to a reemerging debate on soldiers motivations for enlisting-in Grierson s case, patriotism and ideology-and shed new light on the Western theater of the Civil War, which has seen a recent surge in interest among Civil...

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