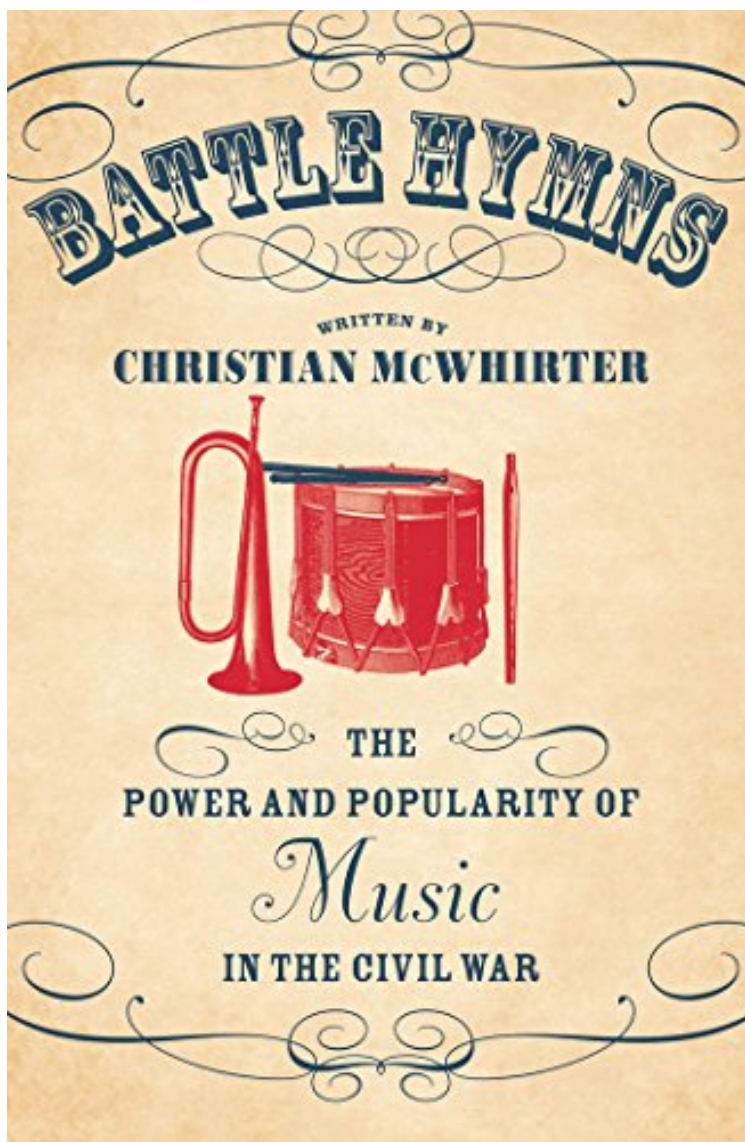


## Battle Hymns: The Power and Popularity of Music in the Civil War (Civil War America)

*Christian McWhirter*

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this work; it is for the historian, the music lover, and all of us who have been touched by the war and its effects. Well written and expertly researched, this was an enjoyable read and it deserves its place on bookshelves across America. As an aside: knowing Christian as a friend, it was easy for me to hear his voice in the passages, however, thankfully...not in the lyrics. Again, well done; well done!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A very welcome findBy allpurposeguruIn this Civil War sesquicentennial period, it's great to find this book on its music. I have enjoyed reading it immensely and will find it very helpful in my own research and writing on the subject. The documentation and bibliography are impressive. I wish the links to the endnotes worked better, but at least I can bookmark stuff I have to find frequently.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Virginia Chamber Orchestra is planning a major concert in ...By Ann SicaThe Virginia Chamber Orchestra is planning a major concert in April, 2015 : "Music in the Life of President LIncoln." This book has been--and continues to be--extremely helpful with its thorough and interesting approach to the subject.

In "Battle Hymns," Christian McWhirter explores the role of music in Civil War America. McWhirter explains that although music was a significant part of American culture in the antebellum period, the explosion of amateur and professional music during the Civil War was unparalleled, and its popularization during the war had a lasting impact throughout the decades that followed. Drawing on an extensive array of published and archival resources, McWhirter examines how music influenced the popular culture surrounding and supporting the war and makes broad statements about the place Civil War music in American society, north and south (and with attention to the music of African Americans). Finally, McWhirter goes on to examine a resurgence of popularity of Civil War songs during the late nineteenth century and discusses the implications of their continued resonance in the twentieth century.