

CAJUNS, CREOLES, PIRATES AND PLANTERS

Your New Louisiana Ancestors Format

Volume 4, Number 34

HISTORICAL OBSERVATIONS: Civil War diaries and commentaries are always valuable research guides for genealogical researchers. First published seventeen years after the end of the war, *Reminiscences of Confederate Service, 1861-1865* by Francis W. Dawson is the only memoir by a British citizen who saw active service in both the Confederate navy and army.

REMINISCENCES OF CONFEDERATE SERVICE 1861-1865

Francis W. Dawson

Edited by Bell I. Wiley

Dawson utilizes his skill as a journalist to write vivid descriptions of experiences on the blockade runner *Nashville*, with the Army of Northern Virginia, and as a prisoner of war at Fort Delaware. He gives an eyewitness account of the wounding of General James Longstreet and of major battles, including those at Fredericksburg and Gettysburg.

Included in this edition, edited by the renowned Civil War historian Bell Wiley, are eighteen wartime letters from Dawson to family and friends in England. These personal letters not only help illuminate the relationship between England and the Confederacy from the common Englishman's point of view but provide the reader with a portrait of a young rebel searching for reason and passion in a time of great change.

After the war, Dawson became an American citizen and, as editor of Charleston's *News and Courier*, a leading spokesman for New South industrialism. Married to Sarah Morgan, famed author of *A Confederate Girl's Diary*, Dawson left her a widow when he was fatally wounded during an argument involving the honor of his Swiss housekeeper.

This is a bold and imaginative contribution to Civil War and southern history. It is unlike any that you may have read before, and insights are given into many of the heroes of the Civil War, including James Longstreet, Robert E. Lee, Fitzhugh Lee, G.W. Anderson, Moxley Sorrell, William Pegram, and even Miss Hettie Carey, the famed Baltimore belle who married General John W. Pegram late in the war.

This book was published by Louisiana State University Press.

XXX

EARLY VIRGINIANS: In *Jamestown People to 1800*, Martha W. McCartney gives researchers a detailed look at the people associated with Jamestown from its founding in 1607 to 1800. Based on government records and private archives, it provides historical biographies of several distinct groups of people such as Jamestown Island landowners, public officials such as council members and burgesses, Native-American leaders, and African Americans associated with Jamestown.

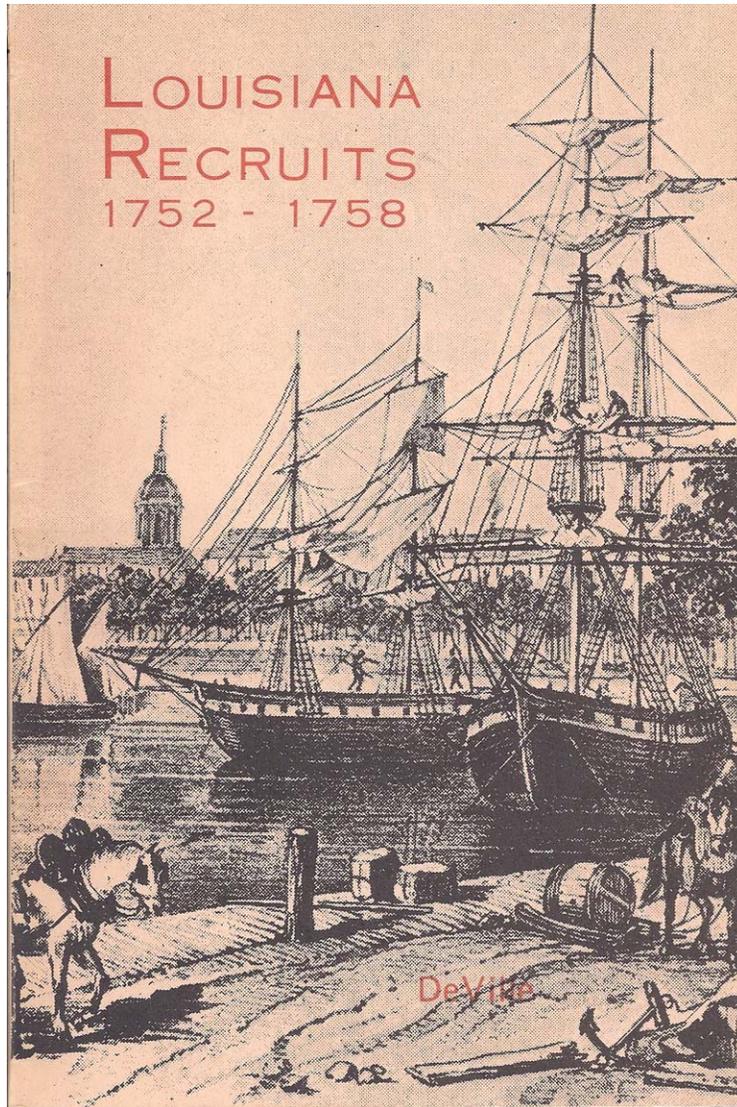
It also covers more than a thousand people who did not own land on Jamestown Island but whose activities brought them to Virginia's capital city, including individuals who appeared before the General Court, Quakers who were jailed on account of their religious beliefs, Indians seeking justice on various matters, and participants in the popular uprising known as Bacon's Rebellion.

Using an array of fascinating but little known sources, McCartney has carved out authoritative biographies and sketches of everyone in the public record associated with Virginia's capital, from landowners to slaves, and she has also enriched her text with a careful study of privately held papers which lend texture to the historical record while filling in little-known details about the very distinctive population.

This book is available from Genealogical Publishing Company of Baltimore. You can check it out online at www.genealogical.com.

XXX

DE VILLE BOOK: *Louisiana Recruits 1752-1758* was first published in 1973 but is available again from Claitor's Publishing. This is another of the excellent research volumes from Winston De Ville, and it covers ship lists of troops from the independent companies of the Navy destined for service in the French Colony of Louisiana.



During the 18th century, France had a large military establishment under the authority of two separate ministries. The great majority of troops was under the Ministry of War and consisted of French and foreign mercenary infantry, cavalry and artillery, as well as light troops and militia battalions. These were the land troops which until the Seven Years War had virtually no relationship with the colonies.

The second body of troops came under the Ministry of the Navy which was responsible not only for the French Navy, but also for the French colonies in America and the protection of the French seacoast. During the late 17th century two types of these troops evolved, and these are covered in this book.

As with all De Ville books, this one is a welcome addition to any genealogical collection and is priced at \$26.00.

XXX

FREE SERVICE: Correspondence to this column should be directed to Damon Veach, Cajuns, Creoles, Pirates and Planters, 709 Bungalow Lane, Baton Rouge, LA 70802-5337. The e-mail address is ancestorslaveach@cox.net. Queries can be any length, and book reviews are printed as space permits, and you are encouraged to take advantage of this free service. All genealogical/historical/preservation books are reviewed in this column format, but a review copy is necessary for this service. Another service is offered here too. Claitor's Publishing can serve as a distributor for self-published genealogy titles. Go to their homepage for details on how you can obtain this excellent service. It is a way to get out-of-print books back into the system and definitely is a great assistance to genealogists who may need this information.