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Bright and Gloomy Days: The Civil War Correspondence of Captain Charles Frederic Bahnsen, a Moravian Confederate (Hardback)

By Charles Frederic Bahnsen

University of Tennessee Press, 2003. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 235 x 162 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Bright and Gloomy Days, the latest contribution to the Voices of the Civil War series, provides the unique perspective of a junior Confederate officer and member of the Moravian church, a traditionally pacifist institution. The letters of Charles Frederic Bahnsen, an assistant quartermaster in the Confederate army, to his father, a bishop in the Moravian church, between 1860 and 1865 relate events such as the Gettysburg and Shenandoah Valley campaigns, tell stories of the good life in the garrison of the forts near Wilmington, North Carolina, and even provide news of a slave woman s poisoning her mistress s child. In his correspondence, Bahnsen reacts to early news of the war when he lived in the North, army politics, construction of winter quarters, commodity prices in conscription, punishment of deserters, handling of the dead, Confederate morale, and problems related to his official duties as an army supplier. Bahnsen expresses strong patriotic sentiments; because of his safe situation, his many references to camp life chronicle not military action but the daily routines of life in the campgrounds. The letters of Charles Frederic...



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