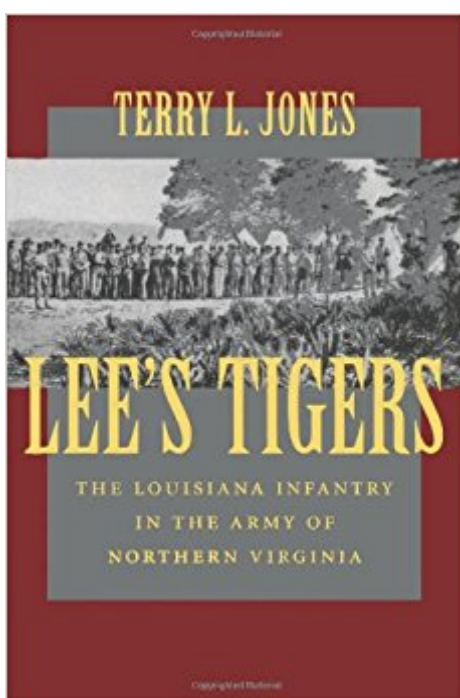


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# Lee's Tigers: The Louisiana Infantry In The Army Of Northern Virginia (Civil War (Louisiana State University Press))



## Synopsis

Sometimes called the "wharf rats from New Orleans" and the "lowest scrapings of the Mississippi," Lee's Tigers were the approximately twelve thousand Louisiana infantrymen who served in the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia from the time of the campaign at First Manassas to the final days of the war at Appomattox. Terry L. Jones offers a colorful, highly readable account of this notorious group of soldiers renowned not only for their drunkenness and disorderly behavior in camp but for their bravery in battle. It was this infantry that held back the initial Federal onslaught at First Manassas, made possible General Stonewall Jackson's famed Valley Campaign, contained the Union breakthrough at Spotsylvania's Bloody Angle, and led Lee's last offensive actions at Fort Stedman and Appomattox. Despite all their vices, Lee's Tigers emerged from the Civil War with one of the most respected military records of any group of southern soldiers. According to Jones, the unsavory reputation of the Tigers was well earned, for Louisiana probably had a higher percentage of criminals, drunkards, and deserters in its commands than any other Confederate state. The author spices his narrative with well-chosen anecdotes—among them an account of one of the stormiest train rides in military history. While on their way to Virginia, the enlisted men of Coppens' Battalion uncoupled their officers' car from the rest of the train and proceeded to partake of their favorite beverages. Upon arriving in Montgomery, the battalion embarked upon a drunken spree of harassment, vandalism, and robbery. Meanwhile, having commandeered another locomotive, the officers arrived and sprang from their train with drawn revolvers to put a stop to the disorder. "The charge of the Light Brigade," one witness recalled, "was surpassed by these irate Creoles." Lee's Tigers is the first study to utilize letters, diaries, and muster rolls to provide a detailed account of the origins, enrollments, casualties, and desertion rates of these soldiers. Jones supplies the first major work to focus solely on Louisiana's infantry in Lee's army throughout the course of the war. Civil War buffs and scholars alike will find Lee's Tigers a valuable addition to their libraries.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The "Tigers" of the title are the Louisiana volunteers who fought in the army of northern Virginia. Jones's 1987 volume presents the sordid history of these soldiers gleaned from primary sources including letters, diaries, muster rolls, and more. Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

Terry L. Jones, professor of history at the University of Louisiana at Monroe, is the editor of *The Civil War Memoirs of Captain William J. Seymour: Reminiscences of a Louisiana Tiger* and *Campbell Brown's Civil War: With Ewell and the Army of Northern Virginia*.

This was a nice history, complete with both the successes and disappointments of the volunteers from Louisiana. Well referenced and cited. The amount of detail was sufficient to make it interesting but not tedious. The only shortcoming was the lack of maps. There were only a few and they weren't very useful. Better maps would have provided more context and a fuller appreciation of the accomplishments of the infantry.

As an LSU alum and a veteran of the Louisiana National Guard, I felt a special bond with the men in the book. These were my predecessors. Great read. Well written and it really captures the character, lust for life and sacrifice of the Louisiana Tigers.

Great book on the Activities Louisiana Units serving with the Army of Northern Virginia . Entertaining , southern patriotism at its best . Does show the warts of Tigers as well as their fierce fighting abilities . Where it is common for soldiers to have a death rate of 2 sickness one battle related . The Tigers had an astonishing 2 battle deaths for every sickness death . A testimony to their give it all on the battle field for the whole four years of fighting . They earned and re earned their nick name "Tigers" which extended to all of Lee's Louisiana units not just Wheat's Tigers . Often used as shock troops for the Army of Northern Virginia .

A great gift for our southern gentleman.

I had read this several years ago. I bought this copy for a gift. The recipient has enjoyed it immensely.

Very interesting history of civil war stories of Louisiana Confederates.

gift for a friend who was pleasantly surprised

Love it! It was Great! Thanks!

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