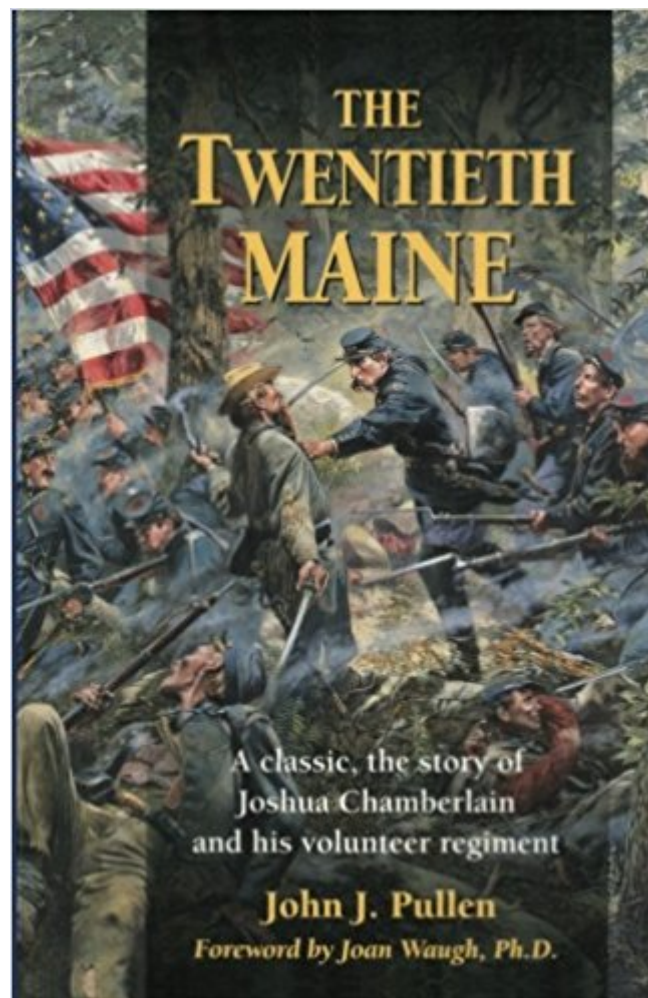




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The Twentieth Maine: A Classic Story Of Joshua Chamberlain And His Volunteer Regiment



Synopsis

We went into the fight with 386, all told--358 guns. Every pioneer and musician who would carry a musket went into the ranks. Even the sick and footsore, who could not keep up in the march, came up as soon as they could find their regiments, and took their places in line of battle, while it was battle, indeed. --Col. Joshua Chamberlain

The fascinating story of Joshua Chamberlain and his volunteer regiment, the Twentieth Maine, is reprinted with a new foreword by Civil War historian and UCLA professor Joan Waugh. Pullen's classic and highly acclaimed book tells how Chamberlain and his men fought at Antietam, Fredericksburg, and Chancellorsville on their way to the pivotal battle of Gettysburg. There, on July 2, 1863, at Little Round Top, they heroically saved the left flank of the Union battle line. The Twentieth Maine's remarkable story ends with the surrender of Lee's troops at Appomattox. Considered by Civil War historians to be one of the best regimental histories ever written, this beloved standard of American history is now available in a new Stackpole edition. Includes maps, photographs, and drawings from the original edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

17 b/w photos, 10 maps

John J. Pullen, a renowned Civil War historian, also wrote *Joshua Chamberlain: A Hero's Life and Legacy* (978-0-8117-0886-9). He lived in Maine, writing about the Civil War until his death in 2003.

A very good book, particularly those interested in the battle of Gettysburg, Joshua Chamberlain, and

the heroics of the 20th Maine. Would have liked to have seen more details on unit's individuals and their personal experiences and outcomes, other than its leaders. Much of the general life of a typical soldier can be found in many other books. Also, with the exception of their Gettysburg engagement, perhaps more details on the regiment's specific actions and casualties during key battles, vs. the more general information on the actions and outcomes of the army, corp, division, or brigade it belonged to. These types of details I've found in other regimental histories. Still a very good book with excellent details of their fierce and heroic resistance on Little Round Top.

A well written saga of the progress of a group of men from their outset as a disorganized group of hay-footed recruits to one of the finest regiments in the U>S> Army. The growth of a seminary professor to a great leader is also inspiring. The details such as the ill fortune of Chamberlain's mounts to the details of daily life in the regiment are well described. The various engagements of the 20th Maine are exciting and well detailed. A very good read for anyone interested in the Civil War

Excellent history of the Twentieth Maine and the battles between the Army of the Potomac and the Army of Northern Virginia. Highly entertaining and informative, discussing the daily trials and tribulations of the soldiers with some amusing/interesting anecdotes and stories. More than just a dry retelling of the historical events, it draws you in and involves you in a way that almost makes you feel as if you were there with the soldiers. I thoroughly enjoyed it, and if you have any interest in this part of our history, I can highly recommend it.

I first learned of this book in FM 22-100, Military Leadership, which described the sterling leadership qualities of Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain. This work is excellent. Mr. Pullen did extensive research; other histories, letters, official archives, and newspapers. His style is clear and vivid. This is a magnificent record of the courage, suffering, folly and wisdom of the leaders and enlisted men who so desperately struggled. There are also shining incidents of humanity and humor. This account honors the spirit of deep respect shown to the defeated Confederate forces at Appomattox.

Joshua Chamberlain was largely an unknown hero of the Civil War, unless you were born and raised in Maine as I was. As a former Governor and President of Bowdoin College he had a little more notoriety in Maine than elsewhere. But the 20th Maine and Chamberlain occupy a special place in history as they played a central role in the Union Army victory at Gettysburg at the battle of

Little Round Top. Clearly the Lord inspired Chamberlain with an extra measure of grace and leadership as he executed heroic maneuvers to save the battle for the north. In the face of insurmountable odds, he showed a rare blend of audacity and brilliance which inspired his men to greatness. I have used his example in several leadership workshops to great effect. The cry of "fix bayonets" has never perhaps rung so clearly down the halls of history as it did that fateful day at Gettysburg.

This is a reorder of great book read long ago.. It chronicles the history of a group of Maine shopkeepers, farmers and tradesmen from their induction to the hilltop fight in a pivotal battle that likely saved the union at Gettysburg. Joshua Chamberlin, Ellis Spear, Walter Morrill and a "middle aged" lumberman enlistee whose beard and hair grew amazingly grey in an amazingly short time make up the cast of well described characters. If I had to recommend the one book that tells the real story about the real people who fought the Civil War, this would be it . It is well written, very readable and essential on every Civil war bookshelf. To be honest, I wouldn't be buying this one if the person who borrowed my copy hadn't liked it too much to return!

This book got me interested in the civil war and we, my husband and I, took a trip to Gettysburg and were much impressed.

My interest in this is personal, as my great-grandfather William Livermore was in this group, and kept extensive diaries which were used as resource material for the book. I remember my parents having a copy. I'm glad it's still in print.

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