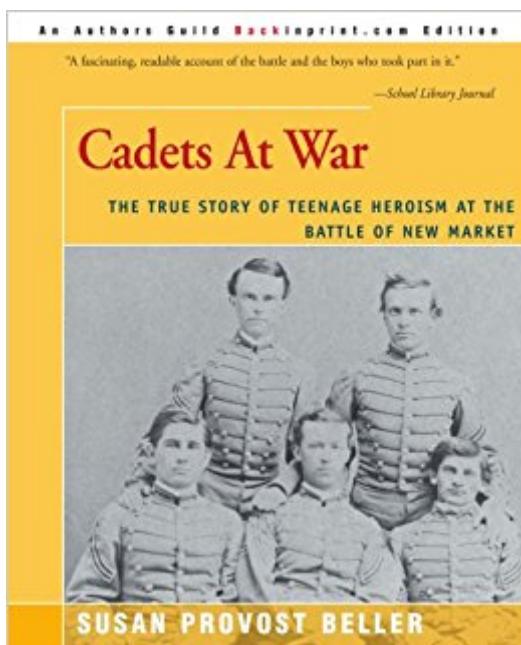


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# Cadets At War: The True Story Of Teenage Heroism At The Battle Of New Market



## **Synopsis**

Using letters, reminiscences, artifacts and archival photographs, Cadets presents the story of the 250 Virginia Military Institute students who fought alongside the Confederate soldiers to defeat a larger Union force in a critical 1864 Civil War battle.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 108 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #911,675 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #156 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > Civil War Era #3957 in Books > History > Americas > United States > Civil War #9336 in Books > History > Military > United States

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 04 - 07

## **Customer Reviews**

Grade 7 Up-- Lexington, Virginia is the home of Virginia Military Institute (founded in 1839). On May 15, 1864, approximately 250 cadets took part in the Battle of New Market alongside seasoned Confederate soldiers under the command of General John C. Breckinridge. The cadet corps played an important role and suffered a casualty rate of 24% while helping to drive back a superior Union force. Beller has carefully researched a wide variety of primary-source materials--letters, registers, drawings, reminiscences, artifacts, etc.--in order to give a fascinating, readable account of the battle and the boys who took part in it. By including the actual words of the cadets, she helps readers understand the feelings, motivations, and experiences of the battle's youngest participants. The author also relates what happened before and after the battle, including a view of V. M. I. and the battlefield as they are today. An excellent selection of archival photos, reproductions of letters and registers, battle maps, and present-day photographs complete the coverage. A nice addition to collections already holding Murphy's The Boys' War: Confederate and Union Soldiers Talk about

the Civil War (Clarion, 1990). --David A. Lindsey, Lakewood Junior/Senior High School, WA  
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Former school librarian and author of ten non-fiction titles for young adults, Susan Provost Beller writes from her home in Charlotte, Vermont. She is an avid history buff and often writes about genealogy and American history, primarily that of the Revolutionary and Civil Wars. Among some of her awards and recognitions are: Maine Library Association Lupine Award, VOYA Non-fiction Honor List, Civil War Journal, New York Times and Scholastic Book Club.

The book is really intended for younger teens or those seeking a general overview of the story of the Battle of New Market, not for the serious student of the Civil War. It appears that the author has no direct ties to VMI, so she can be forgiven for the few minor issues that I picked-up in the text. One might have thought, however, that she would have attended a New Market Day ceremony at VMI in preparation for her literary undertaking, as it would have allowed her to catch one glaring error. The cadets selected to stand-in for the fallen during the annual ceremony respond to the command "Report!" by shouting out the words "Died on the field of honor, sir!", not "Dead on the field of Honor" as reported in the text.

I enjoyed this a lot. I even went out to the Battle site to take pictures and take more in. This is a great book for young students to read about the war.... it was a very fast read and kept you engaged and wanting more

Very good

For anyone interested in the Civil War and its youth, this is a must read. It also represents peer identity.

Wonderful & Full of History. God Bless the Confederate States of America ! Read it & Believe. It's A Winner.

Ms. Beller has told the true story behind the myth of the VMI New Market Corps of Cadets and that story is even better than the one that precedes it. This is a wonderful history of their participation

and their accomplishments. I'd truly reccomend this to anyone with any interest in the American Civil War or teenagers making a difference.

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