

Due date: Sunday, 9 January 2011, 11:55 PM

Last edited: Sunday, 9 January 2011, 02:45 PM (329 words)

For question one, I found the articles very interesting, as well as the Amazon book opinions. It seems McPherson received more positive feedback than negative. The general opinion seemed to agree that he was well documented in footnotes and in the bibliography. A point that I feel is important. The negative statements, to me, seemed to be primarily politically oriented. In the second article the writers' point of view differed from McPhersons in "that the course of the war was not determined by one particular advantage that the North held over the South", vs. the articles opinion, "the North had a tremendous advantage in the industrial capacity that allowed it to turn out guns, uniforms , and other military supplies."From what I have read so far I feel comfortable with the book. I realized that no one can cover everything perfectly. Everyone will have their own political point of view. The point being is to take the best material or author you can find as a base and build on that.

For questing two the issues of history that worry me the most is personal opinion or political bias, though I am not entirely sure that can be eliminated. McPherson has written many history books and is well researched. I will approach this book with keen interest and the awareness that the author is not perfect. That will not affect my interest. I like that fact that he has many resources and footnotes in this book that shows the research that was done as stated in article two as well as other commentary. That makes me feel more confident in his approach.

I feel that this book is going to being very interesting and very informative. I have confidence for the above stated reasons of writing experience, and research. I have no problem with this book as our text. My confidence level is high. I expect to learn a great deal and gain useful insight from this text.

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