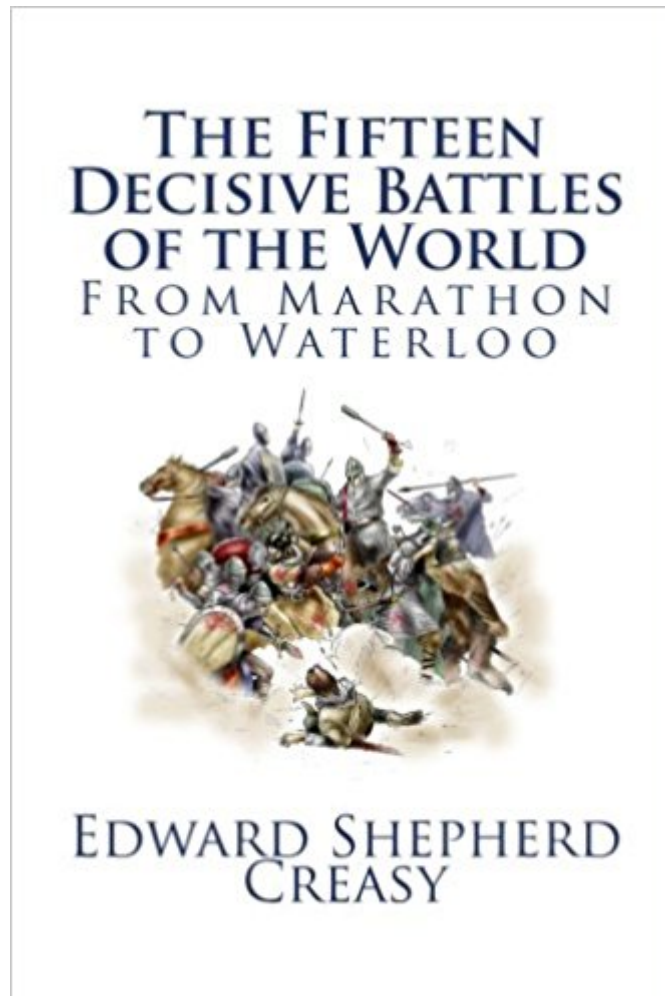




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The Fifteen Decisive Battles Of The World: From Marathon To Waterloo



Synopsis

Undoubtedly the most famous work of military history of the nineteenth century, Sir Edward Shepherd Creasy's "The Fifteen Decisive Battles of the World" has been read and re-read for close to 150 years. It is not only the authoritative account of each battle that makes "Fifteen Decisive Battles" such a classic-it is his command of narrative, his interest in human struggle, his profound deductions as to effects of the battles, and his striving after truth. Furthermore, his selections seem as wise and well-considered today as when "The Fifteen Decisive Battles of the World" first appeared in 1851: Nobody since has made better ones, nor given us better accounts. Apart from the scholarship and literary skill of "Fifteen Decisive Battles," there is another reason it has endured: Creasy was essentially fair-minded. He had been a judge, and when he became England's great military critic and historian, he maintained a thoroughly judicial attitude. He was not a British partisan, nor French, nor German-he was a cosmopolitan observer of great events. Out of 2300 years, Creasy only found fifteen battles which he called decisive in the highest sense-and these are the ones featured in "The Fifteen Decisive Battles of the World." He chose them not for the number of killed and wounded, nor for their status in myth and lore, but because they fundamentally changed the course of world history. In doing so, he made "Fifteen Decisive Battles" a miniature military history of the western world, a classic that will repay continued study for generations to come, as it has for generations.

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Customer Reviews

Sir Edward Shepherd Creasy (1812–1878) was a British historian. He was educated at

Eton College and King's College, Cambridge and called to the Bar in 1837. In 1840, he began teaching history at the University of London. He was knighted in 1860 and assumed the position of Chief Justice of Ceylon. His best known contribution to literature is his *Fifteen Decisive Battles of the World* (1851). Other works include; *Historical and Critical Account of the Several Invasions of England* (1852), *History of the Ottoman Turks*, *The Rise and Progress of the English Constitution*, and *Imperial and Colonial Institutions of the British Empire* (1872).

This is one of the great books of the world. Educated people should at least be familiar with it, even if just in summary. Anyone interested in military history and the history of the west should read it. I found a copy in our high school library and was fascinated with it. Creasy is a great writer, explaining the battles clearly. His description of the defeat and death of Hasdrubal (Hannibal's brother) at Metaurus is still clear in my mind. As is his explanation of the importance of the outcome to Western Civilization. This Digital Services edition released August 8, 2015 contains no maps but has the illustrations at the end of the book.

Good news is that its details are very informative which sets it apart from other historical books. Bad news is that some battles have less details than others. It also gets bogged down with trivialities making it, along with its lack of battle maps, a harder read than most.

I love nonfiction, especially history both foreign and American. If you are the same you will like this book. It's definitely not 'light reading' but it makes you think and I like that.

Anyone who is a military buff and has not read this book, needs to get a copy right away. The descriptions of the ancient battles, particularly, will have you rereading several times. This book has been around a long time; it was written in a time when a lot of research went into the making of a book, so the descriptions of the battles give the reader enough information to get a good picture of what happened.

Books contents aside, I could not have been happier with this purchase. The seller described the books defects and was very honest and clear about what was being sold. A little fading/water damage to the cover, a couple of dog-eared pages, but for its age, the binding is excellent, and it even had some notes handwritten in calligraphy in the margins of some of the battles (very unexpected!) Include the contents of the book, and you get 10 stars! What a great read.

I gave this book four stars because it was interesting and detail oriented. I wish each battle ward accompanied with maps and/or pictures.

This is a great book for casual reading if you're interested in war stories.

Super book and just as described. Great service. Thanks.

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