

**REMINISCENCES OF A
BOY IN BLUE, 1862-
1865. [NEW YORK-1920]**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649750238

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HENRY MURRAY CALVERT

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G. P. Putnam's Sons
New York and London
The Knickerbocker Press

1920

PREFACE

It is worthy of note that the war for the preservation of the Union was conducted by the Government at Washington in accordance with the principles embodied in *A Code of Instructions* prepared specially for the occasion. This code was approved by the great-hearted Lincoln, and the armies and navies of the United States were guided by its principles in the prosecution of the war.

That war was in its character a square stand-up fight in the open by men against men. Women and children were not hurt. Non-combatants were not wantonly molested. War prisoners were not mutilated. Lawlessness for its own sake was frowned on by Union officers. The seeds of hate were not wickedly sown.

This rendered reconciliation easier, should opportunity come, and one did come only thirty-three years after the surrender at Appomattox. For on the night of February 15, 1898, the *Maine* was blown up in Havana Harbour. Next day

sectional lines faded in our land. The blue and the grey shook hands in dead earnest and stood shoulder to shoulder to meet a common foe. Happy the people who, after a tremendous national convulsion, could settle down in the compass of a single generation into a mighty and majestic republic at unity with itself.

These *Reminiscences of a Boy in Blue* were written long ago, while the events were fresh in my memory. Some persons may consider the subject antiquated, but our Civil War, in its dignity, its picturesqueness, and its glory, will probably long be the theme of poets, historians, and dramatists, as it deserves to be.

H. M. C.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., 1919.

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