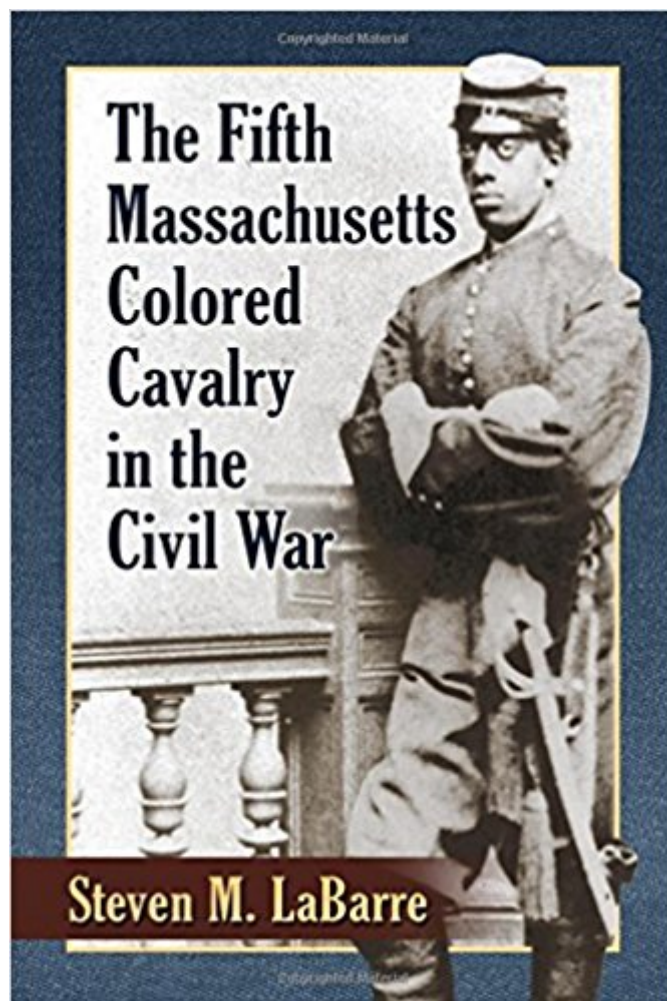


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# The Fifth Massachusetts Colored Cavalry In The Civil War



## Synopsis

In January 1863, a long-anticipated military order arrived on the desk of Massachusetts Governor John Andrew. President Lincoln's secretary of war, Edwin Stanton, had granted the governor authority to raise regiments of black soldiers. Two units--the 54th and 55th Massachusetts Infantry--were soon mustered and in December, Andrew issued General Order No. 44, announcing "a Regiment of Cavalry Volunteers, to be composed of men of color...is now in the process of recruitment in the Commonwealth." Drawing on letters, diaries, memoirs and official reports, this book provides the first full-length regimental history of the Fifth Massachusetts Cavalry--its organization, participation in the Petersburg campaign and the guarding of prisoners at Point Lookout, Maryland, and its triumphant ride into Richmond. Accounts of the postwar lives of many of the men are included.

## Book Information

Paperback: 232 pages

Publisher: McFarland (July 13, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 147666384X

ISBN-13: 978-1476663845

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 6 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

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## Customer Reviews

"This thoroughly researched regimental history traces the story of the Fifth Massachusetts Cavalry (Colored). LaBarre chronicles the troop's history from recruitment to muster out.... Recommended"  
--Choice

Steven M. LaBarre (degree in history and sociology from Olivet Nazarene University) is head of reference and adult services for a public library in a Chicago suburb. He has been featured in the scholarly journal *Gettysburg Magazine*. He lives in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

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