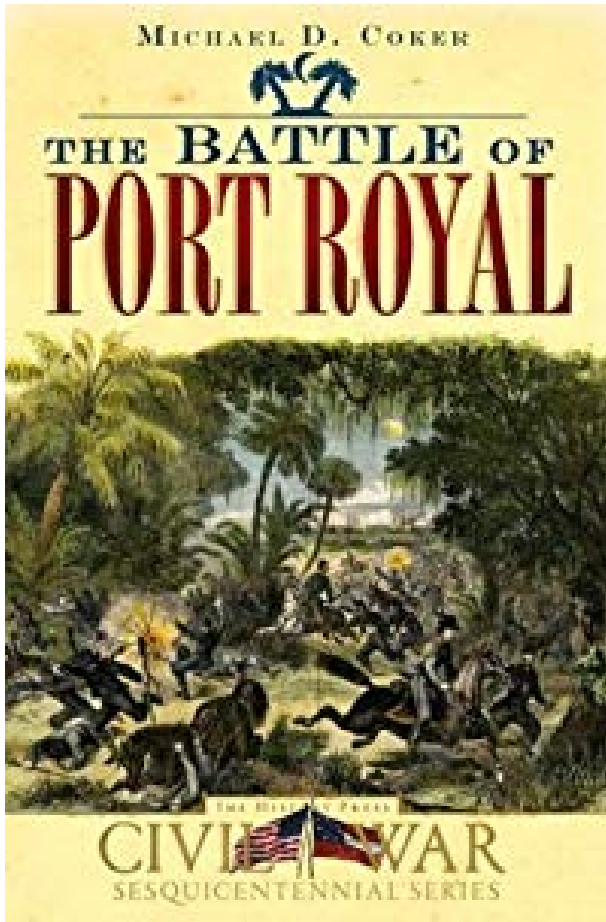


# The Battle of Port Royal (Civil War Sesquicentennial)



<b>ASIN</b>	B005GGSZM8
<b>Pages:</b>	128
<b>Genre:</b>	Uncategorized
<b>Author:</b>	Michael Coker
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Goodreads Rating:</b>	3.50
<b>Published:</b>	August 7th 2011 by The History Press

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November 1861. The South was winning the Civil War. Fort Sumter had fallen to the Confederates.

The Federal army was routed at Manassas. The blockade of Southern ports was a farce; commerce and weapons flowed almost as freely as before the war. There were stirrings of interest from foreign powers in recognizing the Confederacy and brokering a forced peace accord. The Federals needed to turn the tide. The largest fleet ever assembled by the United States set its sights on the South Carolina coast for this much-needed victory.