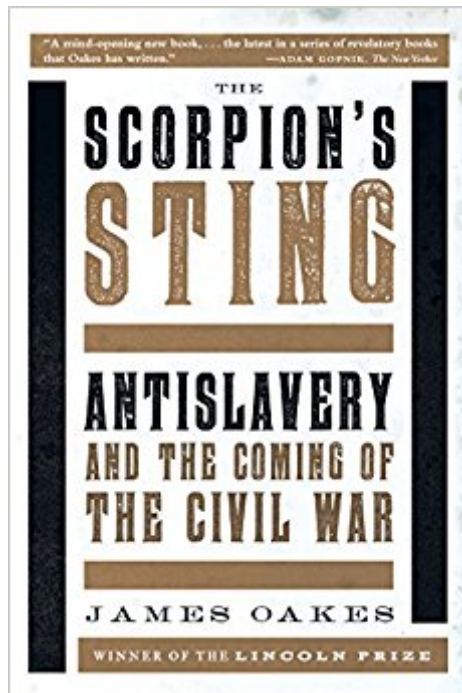The book was found

The Scorpion's Sting: Antislavery And The Coming Of The Civil War

Synopsis

A Washington Post Notable Work of Nonfiction for 2014.The image of a scorpion surrounded by a ring of fire, stinging itself to death, was widespread among antislavery leaders before the Civil War. It captures their long-standing strategy for peaceful abolition: they would surround the slave states with a cordon of freedom, constricting slavery and inducing the social crisis in which the peculiar institution would die. The image opens a fresh perspective on antislavery and the coming of the Civil War, brilliantly explored here by one of our greatest historians of the period.

Book Information

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Best Sellers Rank: #97,274 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)   #71 inÃ Â Books > History > Americas > United States > Civil War > Abolition   #78 inÃ Â Books > History > Americas > United States > Civil War > Campaigns & Battlefields   #543 inÃ Â Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Sociology > Race Relations > Discrimination & Racism

Customer Reviews

Casual American-history buffs will quietly lay this book aside, while serious students of the events and attitudes toward slave emancipation in the decades before the outbreak of the Civil War will find it, pick it up, and enthusiastically consider its provocative arguments. Esteemed historian OakesÃ¢â ¬â„¢ basic premise is this: abolitionists did not plan on a war to effect the end of slavery. They believed that a Ã¢â ¬Å"cordon of freedom,Ã¢â ¬Â• a ring of slave-free states and territories surrounding slave-holding areas, would exert enough antislavery pressure to eventually bring about slaveryÃ¢â ¬â„¢s abolition. Why that concept did not work and why, once secession pulled the nation apart, and warfare erupted, what indeed worked was military emancipation are great and greatly complicated ideas Oakes airs with clear thinking and precise prose. One particularly fascinating aspect of his presentation is his recapitulation of the prewar disagreement over a fundamental question that greatly impacted oneÃ¢â ¬â„¢s view of slavery, Ã¢â ¬Å"Did the natural

right of property take precedence over the natural right to freedom?Ã¢â ¬Â• --Brad Hooper --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Ã¢â ¬Å"Offers the best explication of the long history by which Americans embraced the legitimacy of military emancipation, and it offers great insight into the debate over which took precedence: the natural right to property or the natural right to freedom.Ã¢â ¬Â• - Ira Berlin, Washington PostÃ¢â ¬Å"If any reader still questions whether the Civil War was about slavery, this book overcomes all doubts.Ã¢â ¬Â• - James McPhersonÃ¢â ¬Å"Incisive, imaginative, surprising, completely originalÃ¢â â¢everything that one would expect from the most eminent historian of emancipation.Ã¢â ¬Â• - Eric J. SundquistÃ¢â ¬Å"In clear prose and with searing insight, James Oakes recovers the moral urgency and strategic vision behind the Republican drive to undermine the slave system. A work of great depth and empathy.Ã¢â ¬Â• - Alan TaylorÃ¢â ¬Å"In four swift, clear strokes, James Oakes has rewritten the history of emancipation in the United States.Ã¢â ¬Â• - Allen C. Guelzo

The first chapter is disappointing as it seems a long and convoluted way of stating the obvious. However, the rest of the book is first rate.

This book was purchases for a class. For being such a concise book, this is one of the most valuable books that detail slavery leading up to the Civil War.

A subtle study of the reasoning behind the logic of abolitionist strategy before the Civil War and the pro-slavery reaction to it.

Fresh look at battles over slavery leading up to Civil War - new sources and original analysis.

great price and it was on perfect conditions

A fine book regarding the anti-slavery positions in the country prior to the war. The chapter on military emancipation was overly detailed.

A very important book on the Civil War period.

Good book

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