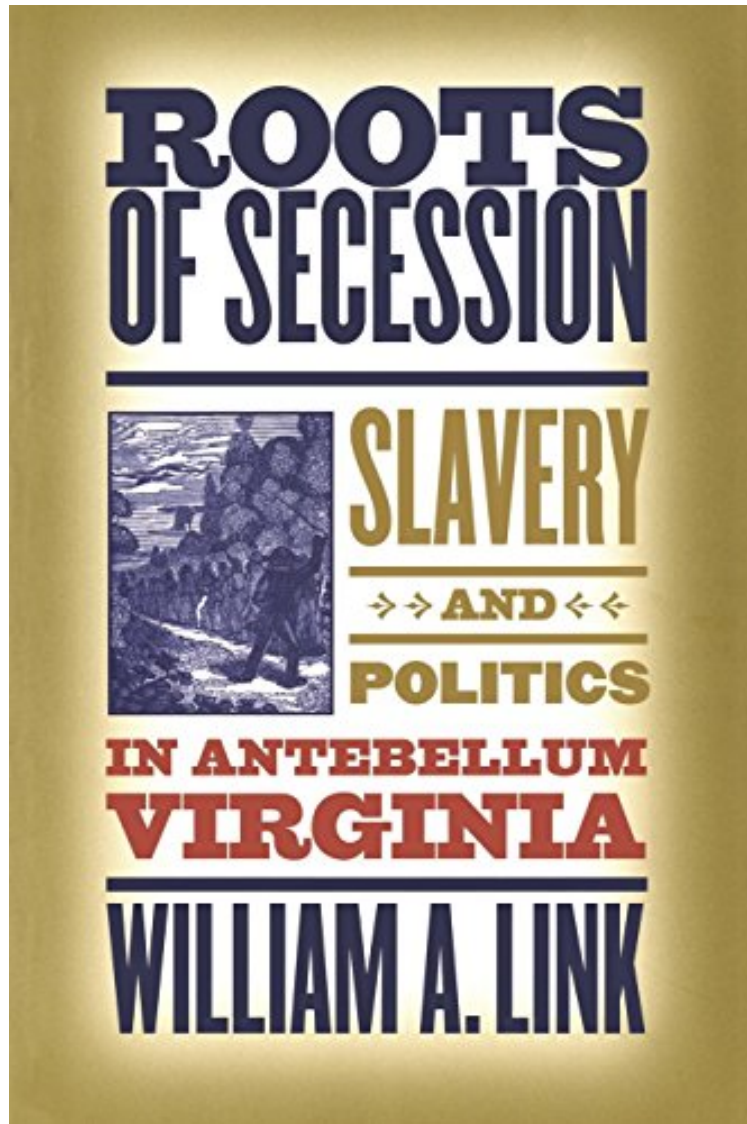


[Free pdf] Roots of Secession: Slavery and Politics in Antebellum Virginia (Civil War America)

Roots of Secession: Slavery and Politics in Antebellum Virginia (Civil War America)

William A. Link

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William A. Link : Roots of Secession: Slavery and Politics in Antebellum Virginia (Civil War America) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Roots of Secession: Slavery and Politics in Antebellum Virginia (Civil War America):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Good book on Virginia and the secession.By D. J. C.I was doing a research project on the secession of the southern states and came across this book. It was a fantastic research book and

help me to mold my arguments. If you are interested in the Secession Crisis and the arguments for and against, this is your book. Just know that it only really covers Virginia. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Bought as a present by James. Backus This was bought as a present for my nephew who has a history degree and works in a civil war park in Virginia. He enjoyed the book, I enjoyed the fact I could have it shipped to him directly

Offering a provocative new look at the politics of secession in antebellum Virginia, William Link places African Americans at the center of events and argues that their acts of defiance and rebellion had powerful political repercussions throughout the turbulent period leading up to the Civil War. An upper South state with nearly half a million slaves--more than any other state in the nation--and some 50,000 free blacks, Virginia witnessed a uniquely volatile convergence of slave resistance and electoral politics in the 1850s. While masters struggled with slaves, disunionists sought to join a nationwide effort to secede and moderates sought to protect slavery but remain in the Union. Arguing for a definition of political action that extends beyond the electoral sphere, Link shows that the coming of the Civil War was directly connected to Virginia's system of slavery, as the tension between defiant slaves and anxious slaveholders energized Virginia politics and spurred on the impending sectional crisis.

By linking slave behavior with the mounting sectional crisis in Virginia during the 1850s, William Link has opened up a fascinating new approach to studying the politics of the commonwealth in the years leading up to secession. (Charles B. Dew, Williams College) "Link's analysis is clear and thought-provoking. . . . A compelling argument that does, indeed, place slaves at the center of political sectionalism. . . . Deepens and complicates our notion of political culture and the roots of secession. " -- "Civil War History" Link addresses social, legal, political, economic, and cultural factors, making a persuasive case for how they interacted to contribute to Virginia's secession. . . . [He] supports his study by exemplary research in a variety of primary sources and reference to an abundance of secondary studies. His book benefits from well-crafted maps and many illustrations, including evocative photographs.--Journal of Interdisciplinary History Through extraordinary research and careful exposition, Link skillfully intertwines the regional language and political rhetoric of over seventy newspapers and many other primary sources with his historical analysis.--Journal of African American History Link's analysis is clear and thought-provoking. . . . A compelling argument that does, indeed, place slaves at the center of political sectionalism. . . . Deepens and complicates our notion of political culture and the roots of secession. --Civil War History In this deeply researched and imaginatively argued narrative, William Link explores the key nexus in the coming of the Civil War. He shows how defiant slaves and a political culture built around slavery pushed Virginia into secession and a war they resisted.--Edward L. Ayers, University of Virginia Link does a superb job in illuminating the anxiety felt by Virginia politicians in the 1850s and adeptly shows the manner in which slavery contributed to tensions between slaveholding and nonslaveholding whites as the decade progressed. . . . Link provides a valuable and provocative contribution to the literature on slavery, politics, and secession.--Journal of American History By linking slave behavior with the mounting sectional crisis in Virginia during the 1850s, William Link has opened up a fascinating new approach to studying the politics of the commonwealth in the years leading up to secession. Civil War scholars will have to contend with this provocative argument, and the debate should be a lively one.--Charles B. Dew, Williams College A most valuable work on antebellum Virginia. Focusing almost entirely on the period from 1850 to the state's secession in April 1861, Link has drawn on a wide variety of sources to write what will surely become the standard work on the subject.--American Historical Association William A. Link's *Roots of Secession* is an important addition to the large and growing body of literature showing the intimate connection between the slave society of the Old South and the causes of the Civil War.--Virginia Libraries This is superb historical scholarship--a work that attempts to discern important social changes and how those changes affected nearly every other issue in the era. . . . It is a must read for antebellum students. Those interested in politics, slavery, and the economy, all can benefit from it. . . . *Roots of Secession* shows how good history can include many factors and how the complexities of society are so often interconnected.--H-Net From the Inside Flap Link explores the politics of secession in Virginia, placing slaves and free blacks at the center of his story and arguing that their acts of resistance and rebellion had real political repercussions in the years before the Civil War.