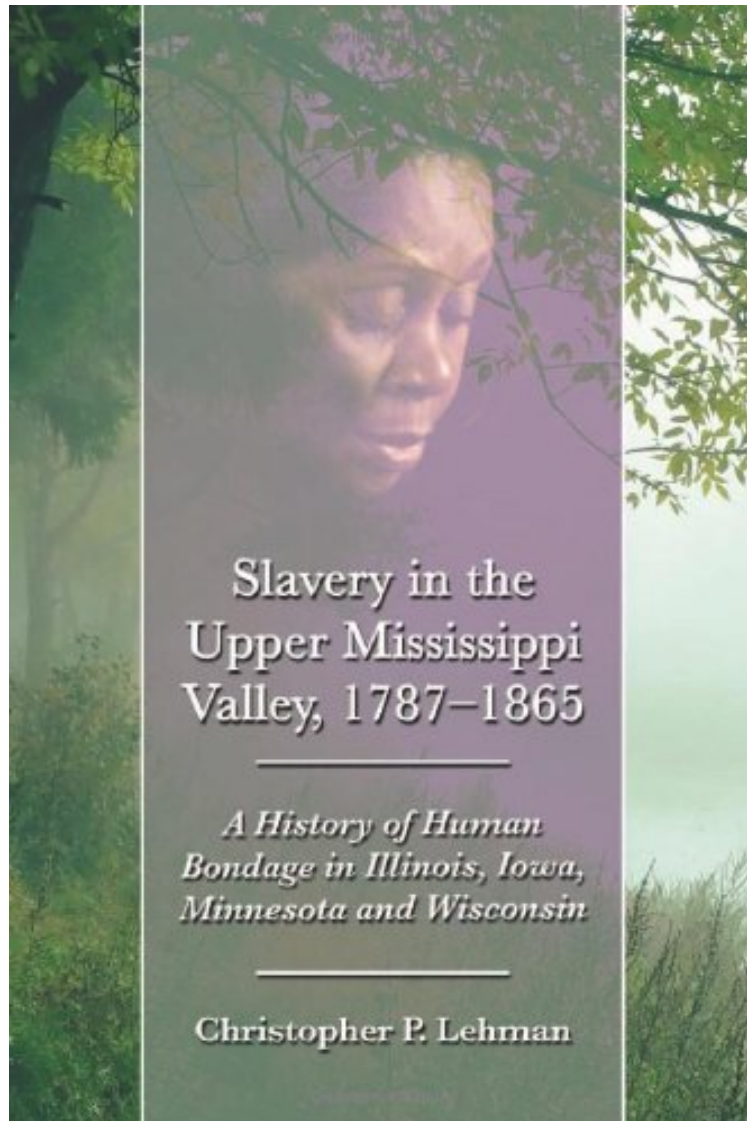


(Mobile book) Slavery in the Upper Mississippi Valley, 1787-1865: A History of Human Bondage in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin

Slavery in the Upper Mississippi Valley, 1787-1865: A History of Human Bondage in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin

Christopher P. Lehman

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Christopher P. Lehman : Slavery in the Upper Mississippi Valley, 1787-1865: A History of Human Bondage in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Slavery in the Upper Mississippi Valley, 1787-1865: A History of Human Bondage in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. History of slavery in the North Mississippi Valley. By OLD1mIKESlavery in the Mississippi ValleyExcellent book for the general reader of American History. Contains a reasonable depth of information. Enlightening. Fair and balanced. Readable. Highly recommend for regional history buffs or anyone interested in understanding the pre civil war culture in the north. A history of the development of the Upper Mississippi Region from the Northwest and Louisiana territories to the period after the civil war. Everyone will find something new in this book. American culture in the first half of the 19th century was as complex and polarized as it is today. This book and others, such as "Copperheads, the Rise and Fall of Lincoln Opponents in the North" remind us that not all Northerners opposed slavery or supported Lincoln in the 1860 elections. Slaves were a minority in the upper Mississippi region. Although illegal, ambiguity and failure to enforce the existing laws resulted in a slave culture worse than commonly thought. While slavery in Wisconsin and Iowa predominantly took the form of personal or house slaves, in Illinois slaves were used more extensively including developing and sustaining lead mining in the Galena area. Illinois courts supported slavery into the 1860's. In addition to the slavery issue, there was significant racial prejudice toward free Africa Americans and run away slaves. Illinois passed oppressive Black Laws. Both Illinois and Iowa outlawed black immigration. Iowa outlawed public education for African Americans. Lehman tells the story of the culture change as slavery became less tolerable in the north. The book is thought provoking, stimulates a desire for more information and a deeper understanding of the historical culture leading to the civil war.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. History is complicated By E. Ferguson Anytime we, in current society, start to think that the people who came before us in the world are less complicated we do our history a disservice. This book cracks open one of those complicated aspects to our shared history, slavery in the Upper Mississippi Valley. It is too easy to see the Civil War as good guys versus bad guys with clearly defined lines. The truth is we do not now live our lives this way nor was it true in the past. This book gives a detailed account of slavery in an area of the country outside of the slave states.

Ordinance in 1787 banned African American slavery in the Upper Mississippi River Valley, making the new territory officially "free," slavery in fact persisted in the region through the end of the Civil War. Slaves accompanied presidential appointees serving as soldiers or federal officials in the Upper Mississippi, worked in federally supported mines, and openly accompanied southern travelers. Entrepreneurs from the East Coast started pro-slavery riverfront communities in Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Minnesota to woo vacationing slaveholders. Midwestern slaves joined their southern counterparts in suffering family separations, beatings, auctions, and other indignities that accompanied status as chattel. This revealing work explores all facets of the "peculiar institution" in this peculiar location and its impact on the social and political development of the United States.

"comprehensive...intriguing...refreshing...recommended"--Choice; "an excellent and quite original book."--Eric Foner, Pulitzer Prize-winning historian
About the Author Christopher P. Lehman is a professor of ethnic studies at St. Cloud State University in St. Cloud, Minnesota, and the author of three books about American popular culture.