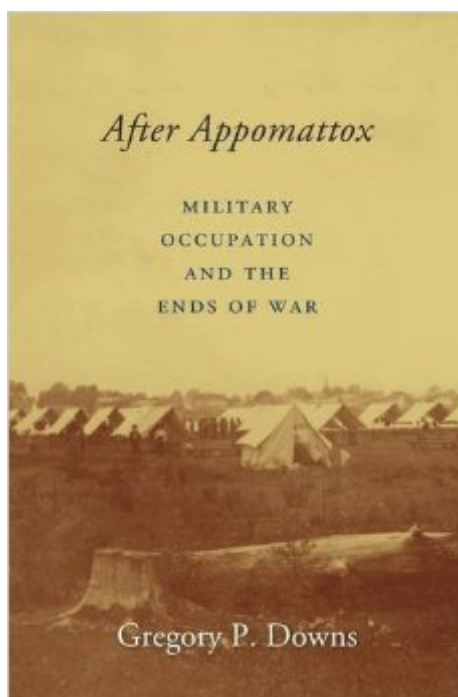


The book was found

After Appomattox: Military Occupation And The Ends Of War



Synopsis

On April 8, 1865, after four years of civil war, General Robert E. Lee wrote to General Ulysses S. Grant asking for peace. Peace was beyond his authority to negotiate, Grant replied, but surrender terms he would discuss. As Gregory Downs reveals in this gripping history of post-Civil War America, Grant's distinction proved prophetic, for peace would elude the South for years after Lee's surrender at Appomattox. After Appomattox argues that the war did not end with Confederate capitulation in 1865. Instead, a second phase commenced which lasted until 1871 - not the project euphemistically called Reconstruction but a state of genuine belligerency whose mission was to shape the terms of peace. Using its war powers, the U.S. Army oversaw an ambitious occupation, stationing tens of thousands of troops in hundreds of outposts across the defeated South. This groundbreaking study of the post-surrender occupation makes clear that its purpose was to crush slavery and to create meaningful civil and political rights for freed people in the face of rebels' bold resistance. But reliance on military occupation posed its own dilemmas. In areas beyond Army control, the Ku Klux Klan and other violent insurgencies created near-anarchy. Voters in the North also could not stomach an expensive and demoralizing occupation. Under those pressures, by 1871, the Civil War came to its legal end. The wartime after Appomattox disrupted planter power and established important rights, but the dawn of legal peacetime heralded the return of rebel power, not a sustainable peace.

Book Information

Hardcover: 352 pages

Publisher: Harvard University Press (April 9, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0674743989

ISBN-13: 978-0674743984

Product Dimensions: 6.3 x 1 x 9.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars - See all reviews (10 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #88,008 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #5 in Books > History > Americas > United States > Civil War > Campaigns & Battlefields > Appomattox #56 in Books > History > Americas > United States > Civil War > Abolition #367 in Books > History > Americas > United States > African Americans > Discrimination & Racism

Customer Reviews

Marvelous in every way. Confirmed what I've known for a very long time; that is- the South was under military occupation for many decades after the war and that when the U.S. Army finally left, blacks were flushed down the toilet by their former semi-liberators. Really convincing argument that Negroes in this country were damned if they do, damned if they don't. Yanks didn't want them up there taking jobs or breeding with enlightened whites and white southerners didn't want them because they had a huge axe to grind due to being so utterly defeated during the war. Real shame really. Explains why I felt that true advancement for Negroes in this country did not occur until the 1970s, and much of that led by the US military and its policy to do everything in its power to advance the careers of black officers over and above whites. I am not bitching about it; saw it first-hand and it was a good policy. The military my son now officers in had largely gotten over the issue of women and minorities. I applaud Downs for writing such a revealing, original piece of work- nothing quite like it in literature.

ADDRESSES THE INCOMPLETELY TOLD STORY OF RECONSTRUCTION Gregory Downs
After Appomattox: Military occupation & the ends of war Cambridge, MA: Harvard Univ. Press, 2015. 9
longitudinal maps on military post locations. 6 images. Notes. Index. 8 statistical appendices on the
number of U.S. Army posts, soldiers, & soldiers / post; mostly longitudinally with some by region.
TOPICS COVERED: gunpoint emancipation, reinstating civil gov't, an illusion of peace,
enfranchisement through martial law, & attempting to govern without force. An excellent book
interweaving military and presidential / Congressional political history to examine the attempts to
control Southern resistance to social & cultural change amidst US political factionalism, the Northern
desire to end the war so soldiers could return home & the fiscal burden of the war could begin to be
addressed, the struggle to institute, protect & preserve the new rights for freedMEN; and how to
readmit the seceded States to the Union without granting them even greater postwar national
political power in Congressional representation and the Electoral College while black suffrage was
being actively suppressed within those States. The actual attainment of Union war goals was
sufficiently endangered that the South was within reach of being the de facto victor.

Everyone knows the story of Appomattox and the "end" of the Civil War. However, the events that followed are virtually unknown and essentially ignored. We now have Gregory Downs to thank for bringing those events and their consequences to light: the extensive military occupation of the post-Appomattox South, the continued Southern insurgency and its use of violence against the Freedmen. The political in-fighting in Congress, while highly detailed by the author, is somewhat dry.

It does, though, provide a necessary context and gives a deeper picture of the highly complex process and purpose of Reconstruction. Most importantly, in our own Post 9-11 era, Downs challenges us to meditate on the uses and limitations of extra-constitutional powers, military occupation and nation building. Very worthwhile.

An interesting and not very well reported topic. The book disputes a number of generally accepted facts about the post Civil War South.

The clearest explanation of the Reconstruction Era I have ever read and I was a history major in college.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

After Appomattox: Military Occupation and the Ends of War
Taking Haiti: Military Occupation and the Culture of U.S. Imperialism, 1915-1940
Civil War: Fort Sumter to Appomattox (General Military)
After Appomattox: How the South Won the War
Four Brothers in Blue; or, Sunshine and Shadows of the War of the Rebellion: A Story of the Great Civil War from Bull Run to Appomattox
The Civil War: A Narrative: Volume 3: Red River to Appomattox (Vintage Civil War Library)
Photographic History of The Civil War: Vicksburg to Appomattox (Civil War Times Illustrated) (v. 2)
Union Cavalry in the Civil War, Vol. 2: The War in the East, from Gettysburg to Appomattox, 1863-1865
Cognition, Occupation, and Participation Across the Life Span: Neuroscience, Neurorehabilitation, and Models of Intervention in Occupational Therapy, 3rd Edition
Cobra II: The Inside Story of the Invasion and Occupation of Iraq
The Cretan Runner: His story of the German Occupation
Occupation-Based Activity Analysis
With MacArthur in Japan: A Personal History of the Occupation
Financial Aid for Veterans, Military Personnel, and Their Families, 2012-2014 (Financial Aid for Veterans, Military Personnel and Their Dependents)
With Trumpet, Drum and Fife: A short treatise covering the rise and fall of military musical instruments on the battlefield (Helion Studies in Military History)
Military Millionaire: How You Can Retire a Millionaire and Live a Life of Wealth (No Matter What Your Pay Grade)
Using Special Military Investment Benefits and a Proven Plan for Success
Military Flight Aptitude Tests, 5/e (Peterson's Master the Military Flight Aptitude Tests)
War upon the Land: Military Strategy and the Transformation of Southern Landscapes during the American Civil War (Environmental History and the American South Ser.)
"Friends in Peace and War": The Russian Navy's Landmark Visit to Civil War San Francisco (Military Controversies)
A Savage War: A Military History of the Civil War

[Dmca](#)