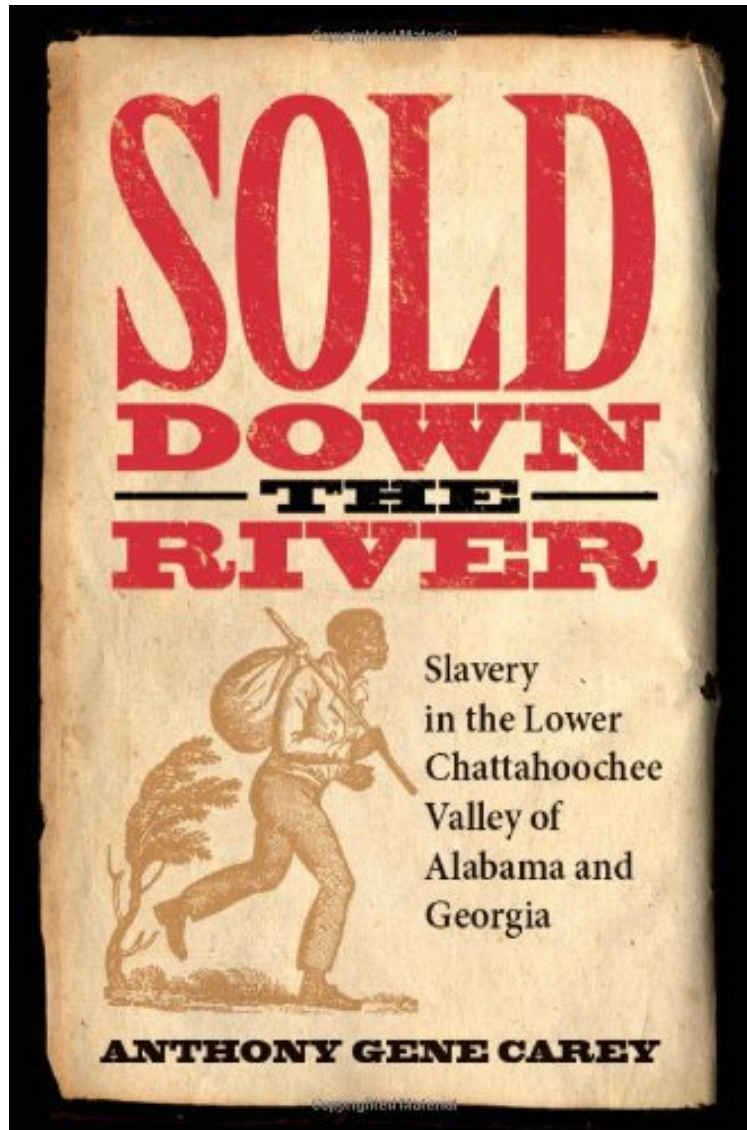


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In the New World, the buying and selling of slaves and of the commodities that they produced generated immense wealth, which reshaped existing societies and helped build new ones. From small beginnings, slavery in North America expanded until it furnished the foundation for two extraordinarily rich and powerful slave societies, the United States of America and then the Confederate States of America. The expansion and concentration of slavery into what became the Confederacy in 1861 was arguably the most momentous development after nationhood itself in the early history of the American republic.

Impressively researched, well written, and thoughtfully organized, this book was a genuine pleasure to read. Professor Carey brings to the table a history of slavery that has been powerfully informed by a lively new scholarship. Susan Eva ODonovan, author of *Becoming Free in the Cotton South*