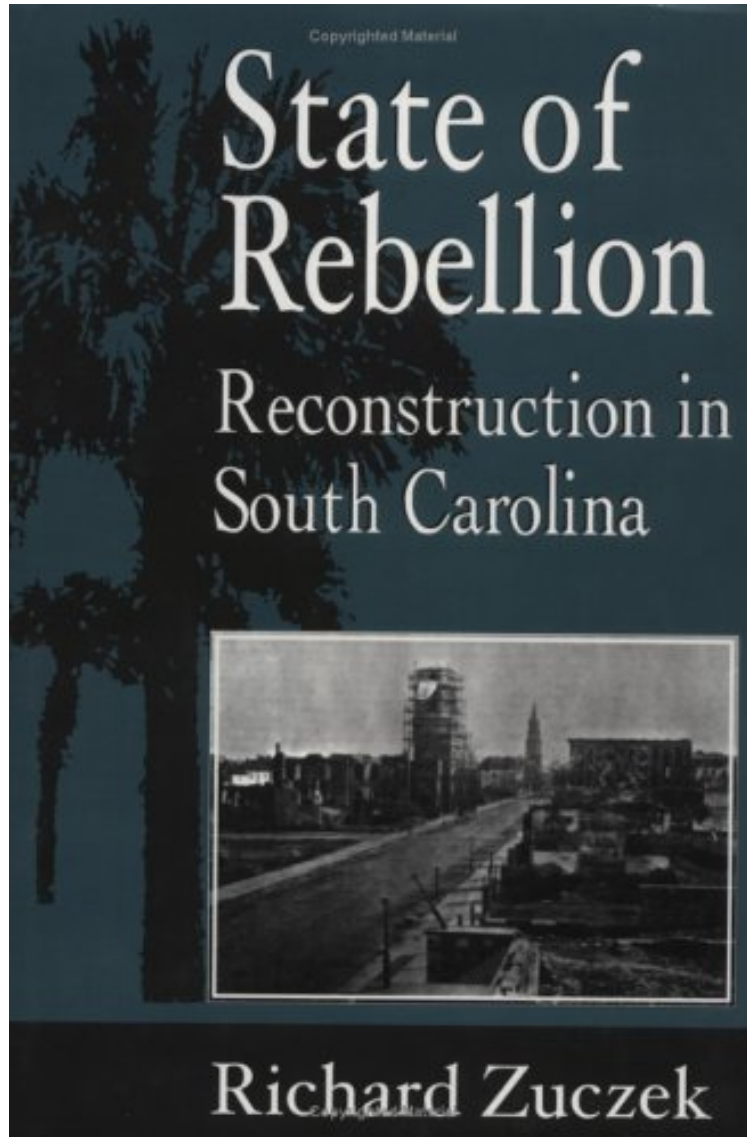


(Download free pdf) State of Rebellion: Reconstruction in South Carolina

State of Rebellion: Reconstruction in South Carolina

Richard Zuczek

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Richard Zuczek : State of Rebellion: Reconstruction in South Carolina before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised State of Rebellion: Reconstruction in South Carolina:

6 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Reconstruction as seen by the victors By O. Pflug State of Rebellion focuses on Reconstruction from the point of view of native white Carolinians. Most local studies of Reconstruction during the past fifty or so years have focused on the experiences of former slaves, white northern immigrants, or white supporters of the Republican party. Most of these books also study Reconstruction from the perspective of it being a

failure to secure rights for blacks or maintain Republican governments. Zuczek looks at Reconstruction as being a success for white southern resistance. South Carolina whites faced some of the longest odds by 1867 of any other southern state to return to what they saw as an acceptable governmental and social situation. Nearly 60% of the state's population being former slaves, it would take a strong, cohesive, resistance movement to regain power. It took Carolinians almost ten years, until 1876, for them to be in a position to "redeem" the state. Whites used withering criticism of the Republican Reconstruction regime and intimidated blacks and other Republicans with wide-scale violence in order to undermine their enemies. But it was only with the tepid response of the northern government and public, weary over the years-long struggle with the South, which allowed the Redeemers to finally prevail via the violence-marred elections of 1876. The vast majority of native Carolina whites would not tolerate Republican rule; their undying opposition—a key component to any resistance movement—allowed them to prevail despite their minority position.⁴ of 6 people found the following review helpful. Excellent! By Gregory N. Ballentine I bought this book several years ago, and it quickly became my favorite book on Reconstruction in South Carolina. I have since bought several more copies and gave them to friends who share an interest in the subject. This is the first book I've encountered that focuses on white resistance to Federal authority in a relatively impartial manner, at least one that was authored by a contemporary. Usually I have to read out-of-print books written by actual eyewitnesses to get a similar perspective. Most books written recently focus on the blacks and their struggles. Of course these works are mostly tarnished by today's politics and do not attempt to explain white motivations and fears, and usually put all whites in a simple category - evil and violent. And blacks are always cast as reasonable and honest, and praying for peace. Even in this text violent, oppressive, and corruption by blacks is downplayed while amplified or exaggerated for whites. But this book is the best you're going to get.

This text recounts the volatile course of Reconstruction in South Carolina which experienced the longest and largest federal presence in the years following the Civil War. The author addresses the general failure of Reconstruction and the ethnic dilemma facing the postwar nation.

From the Back Cover *State of Rebellion: Reconstruction in South Carolina* recounts the volatile course of Reconstruction in the state that experienced the longest, largest, and most dynamic federal presence in the years immediately following the Civil War. Richard Zuczek examines the opposition of conservative white South Carolinians to the Republican-led program and the federal and state governments' attempts to quell such resistance. Contending that the issues that had driven secession - the relationship of the states to the federal government and the status of African Americans - remained essentially unresolved after Lee's surrender, Zuczek describes the Reconstruction period of 1865-1877 as a continuation of the struggle of 1861-1865, albeit one carried on by different means. He argues that Republican efforts failed primarily because of an organized, coherent effort by white Southerners committed to white supremacy. Zuczek details the tactics - from judicial and political fraud to economic coercion, terrorism, and guerrilla activity - employed by conservatives to nullify the African American vote, control African American labor, and oust Northern Republicans from the state. He documents the federal government's attempt to quash the conservative challenge but shows that, by 1876, white opposition to the Republican Party's program was so unified, widespread, and well armed that it passed beyond government control. Calling the "Campaign of 1876" as much a military campaign as a political endeavor, Zuczek details the recapture of the state by conservatives and the pursuit of their own program of reconstruction, which lasted well into the twentieth century. About the Author Richard Zuczek is an associate professor of government and history at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut. He is editor of the two-volume *Encyclopedia of the Reconstruction Era* and coauthor of *Andrew Johnson: A Biographical Companion*.