

## Colonel D Wyatt Aiken 1828 1887 South Carolinas Militant Agrarian

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composed by the leading historians in the field this single volume encyclopedia on reconstruction delivers the most concise focused and readable reference work available to educators and students in many ways the civil war destroyed the american south the democratic party and slavery with much of the nation left in ruins what was to become of former slaves and of former confederates yet the unprecedented turmoil that followed the war presented the united states with great opportunities how america tried to solve the problems and take advantage of opportunities after the civil war is the focus of this encyclopedia which provides the core elements necessary for researching and understanding the complex period in u s history known as reconstruction the volume offers a concise introduction to and chronology of the reconstruction period scores of entries composed by subject experts and an appendix that features key primary documents the entries have been carefully chosen for their importance and relevance are written in language accessible to high school students and supply useful references for further investigation this volume will be indispensable for research into reconstruction and affords anyone studying the united states during this period insight and perspective whether the topic be african american history the civil war abraham lincoln or the coming of sharecropping

lists every member of the u s house and senate since 1789 with brief biographical entries on each member

reconstruction sought to bring order from the tremendous social political economic physical and constitutional changes wrought by secession and the civil war changes that included the abolition of slavery the expansion of governmental power and constitutional jurisdiction the rise of the republican party the explosion of northern industry and the national market and the appearance of a social dynamism that supported struggles by new social groups for political and civil equality in american history reconstruction is the term applied to the period 1862 1877 when the united states sought to bring order from the tremendous social political economic physical

and constitutional changes wrought by secession and the civil war the decision by eleven southern states to attempt secession and reject the national government and the decision by the federal government under president abraham lincoln to deny that attempt and enforce federal law unleashed forces that forever changed the american republic these changes included the abolition of slavery the expansion of governmental power and constitutional jurisdiction the rise of the republican party the explosion of northern industry and the national market and the appearance of a social dynamism that supported struggles by new social groups for political and civil equality no one anticipated the totality the viciousness and the intensity of the civil war and as a result no one was prepared to deal with its consequences topics covered include who should direct reconstruction how the federal government treated conquered states their governments and their soldiers the role of the freed people in the new republic and how the war altered the constitution the party system and the american economy among many others many entries describe and analyze the lives careers and impacts of the individuals north and south black and white who shaped the course of reconstruction including the following ames adelbert bruce blanche k douglass frederick gordon john b hancock winfield s howard oliver o pinchback pinckney b s revels hiram r sheridan philip h wade benjamin f other entries deal with broad topics and themes related to reconstruction and its consequences including the following abolition of slavery black politicians black suffrage bloody shirt economic policies race riots reconstruction theories of scandals during reconstruction state constitutional conventions violence during reconstruction still other entries cover a wide variety of events groups acts agencies and amendments that were part of the story of reconstruction including the following american indians bureau of refugees freedmen and abandoned lands compromise of 1877 democratic party fourteenth amendment joint committee on reconstruction loyalty oaths military reconstruction acts stalwarts tenure of office act among the more than 270 entries are 11 that discuss the course and consequences of reconstruction in each of the former confederate states and 6 that discuss the outcome and significance of the presidential and key congressional elections held between 1864 and 1876 the encyclopedia also offers a timeline of reconstruction a bibliography of print and electronic information resources a selection of primary documents a table of important dates numerous illustrations and a detailed subject index

because they were situated near the mason dixon line shepherdstown residents witnessed the realities of the civil war firsthand the

maryland campaign of september 1862 brought thousands of wounded confederates into the town s homes churches and warehouses the story of shepherdstown s transformation into one vast hospital recounts nightmarish scenes of confederate soldiers under the caring hands of an army of surgeons and civilians

an in depth study of american social movements after the civil war and their lessons for today by a prizewinning historian the civil war unleashed a torrent of claims for equality in the chaotic years following the war former slaves women s rights activists farmhands and factory workers all engaged in the pursuit of the meaning of equality in america this contest resulted in experiments in collective action as millions joined leagues and unions in equality an american dilemma 1866 1886 charles postel demonstrates how taking stock of these movements forces us to rethink some of the central myths of american history despite a nationwide push for equality egalitarian impulses oftentimes clashed with one another these dynamics get to the heart of the great paradox of the fifty years following the civil war and of american history at large waves of agricultural labor and women s rights movements were accompanied by the deepening of racial discrimination and oppression herculean efforts to overcome the economic inequality of the first gilded age and the sexual inequality of the late victorian social order emerged alongside native american dispossession chinese exclusion jim crow segregation and lynch law now as postel argues the twenty first century has ushered in a second gilded age of savage socioeconomic inequalities convincing and learned equality explores the roots of these social fissures and speaks urgently to the need for expansive strides toward equality to meet our contemporary crisis

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