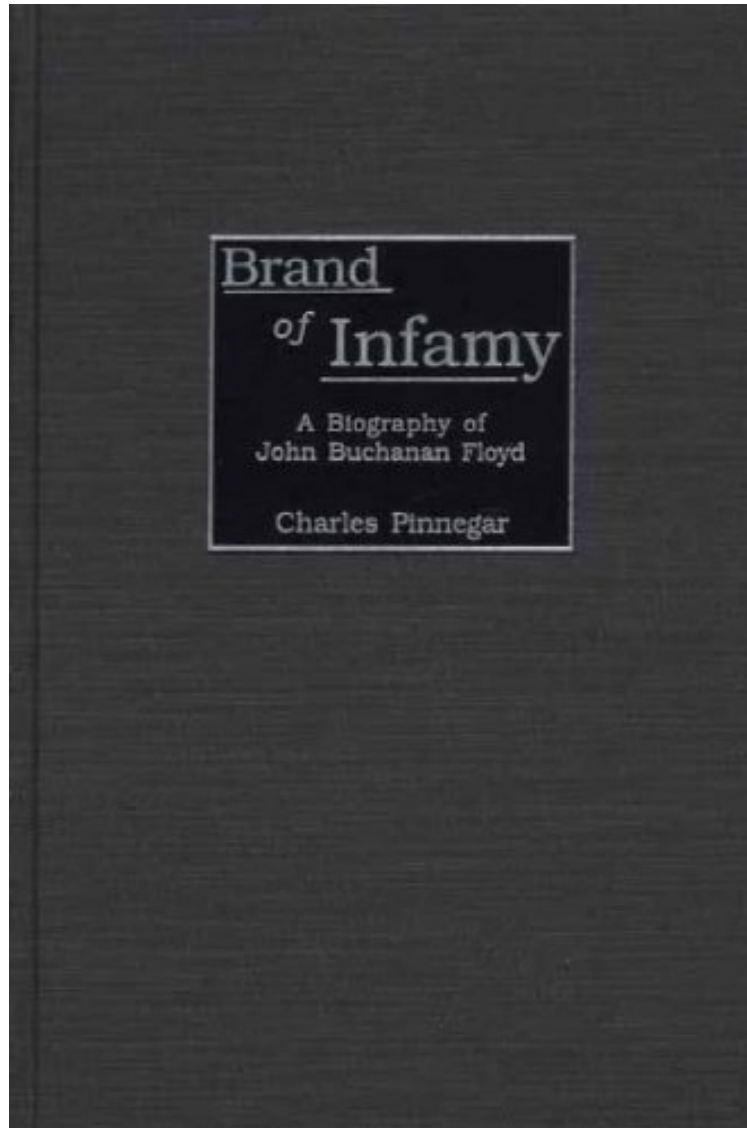


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## Brand of Infamy: A Biography of John Buchanan Floyd

*Charles Pinnegar*

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#6106364 in Books Praeger 2002-01-30Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.02 x .63 x 5.981, 1.26 #File Name: 0313321337256 pages | File size: 47.Mb

**Charles Pinnegar : Brand of Infamy: A Biography of John Buchanan Floyd** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Brand of Infamy: A Biography of John Buchanan Floyd:

Historians have labeled John Buchanan Floyd a traitor and a coward for his actions during the Civil War, and this view has persisted largely unchallenged. This study reopens the case of this reform-minded Virginia governor and one-time

Secretary of War to examine all aspects of Floyd's career. Pinnegar contends that partisan congressional investigations and wild newspaper claims branded Floyd as a traitor to the Union, and that the historical profession's tendency to focus solely on his connections to the Civil War era have ensured that Floyd's reputation was never leavened by the successes of his first fifty years. Pinnegar hopes to demonstrate that charges of malfeasance in office were exaggerated, while prevailing administrative routines were ignored, tactics that result in an unfair portrait of Floyd. Although he was a Unionist, Floyd did consider secession a viable option given the right conditions. This view earned him the label of the most hated southerner in the North. Most of Floyd's personal papers were destroyed in a Union cavalry raid in 1864, making a complete reassessment of his reputation difficult. Pinnegar places Floyd's life in context, explaining the circumstances surrounding the scandals during his years as Secretary of War and chronicling the hardships, successes, and failures of his army command. While Floyd was certainly no saint, this challenge to accepted dogma looks beyond the labels to take the reader closer to the real Floyd.

"With the publication of Charles Pinnegar Brand of Infamy Historians at last have a biography of John B. Floyd (1866-1863)- Virginia Democratic governor controversial U.S. secretary of war, and disgraced Confederate general. Aside from its extensive use of unexploited sources, the prime value of this book is the light that it sheds on certain aspects of Floyd's life - his gubernatorial years, the unexpected pronunciation of his surname (Flood), and his wife's name. The author invites readers to consider how history is written and credibly advances the conclusion that Floyd did not benefit monetarily from public service, notwithstanding persistent accusations of corruption."-The New Mexico Historical ?With the publication of Charles Pinnegar Brand of Infamy Historians at last have a biography of John B. Floyd (1866-1863)- Virginia Democratic governor controversial U.S. secretary of war, and disgraced Confederate general. Aside from its extensive use of unexploited sources, the prime value of this book is the light that it sheds on certain aspects of Floyd's life - his gubernatorial years, the unexpected pronunciation of his surname (Flood), and his wife's name. The author invites readers to consider how history is written and credibly advances the conclusion that Floyd did not benefit monetarily from public service, notwithstanding persistent accusations of corruption.?-The New Mexico Historical About the Author CHARLES PINNEGAR, a retired high school mathematics and computer science teacher, resides in Fonthill, Ontario, with his wife Ann and youngest son Chris. He is currently researching antebellum state rights.