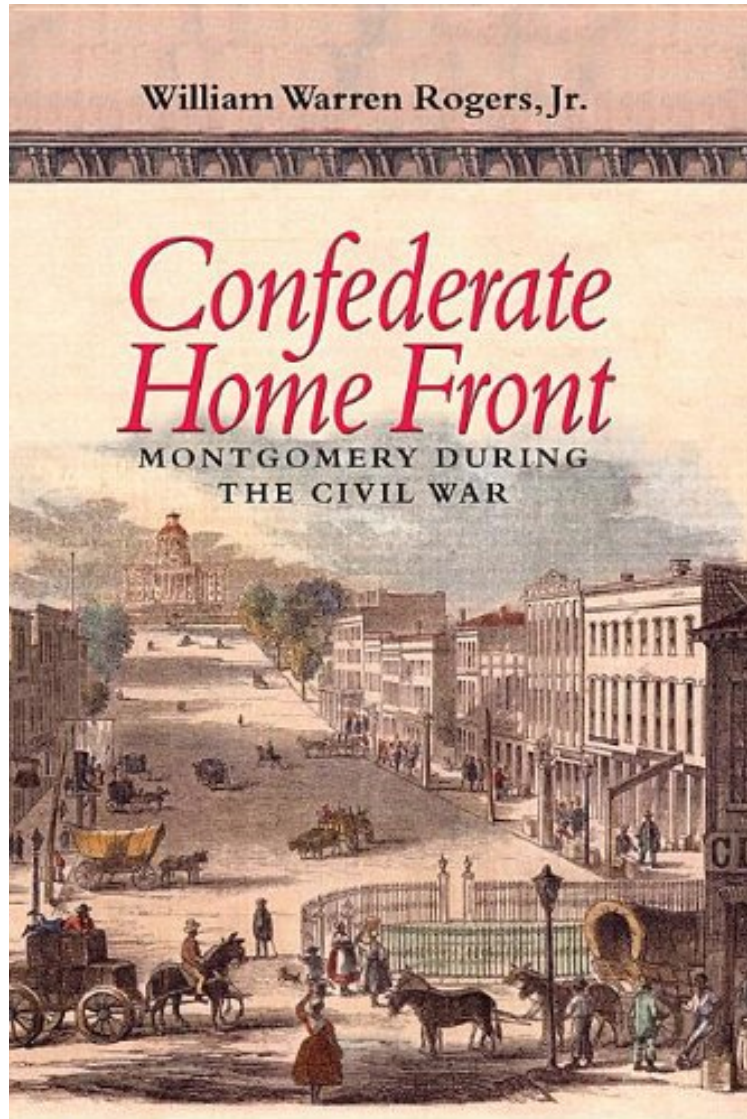


(Read free) Confederate Home Front: Montgomery during the Civil War

Confederate Home Front: Montgomery during the Civil War

William Warren Rogers Jr, Dr. William Warren Rogers Jr
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William Warren Rogers Jr, Dr. William Warren Rogers Jr : Confederate Home Front: Montgomery during the Civil War before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Confederate Home Front: Montgomery during the Civil War:

2 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Select story for select audience...?By Charles C. DiVincenti Jr.Rogers offers a look at the first capital of the Confederacy -albeit the capital for a mere handful of months. Rogers then expands focus on Montgomery for the remaining war years ('61-'65). Although Rogers presents the city of Montgomery as a "microcosm" of other Southern cities, I find Rogers offers little to defend his thesis. Except for its

"15 minutes" as the capital, Montgomery, for the most part, largely escapes the ravages of other towns/cities/villages of the Deep South. I really found not much of a story to tell within these pages. Indeed there is only 156 pages of readable text!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Written in an engaging manner. Interesting for historian and ...By readerWritten in an engaging manner. Interesting for historian and history buff alike.

With this superbly written, meticulously researched, and concisely argued study, Rogers has helped deepen our understanding of the Confederate civilian experience. Drawing from a wealth of historic documents and personal papers, William Warren Rogers, Jr., provides a fascinating and detailed political, economic, social, and commercial history of Montgomery from 1860 to 1865. His account begins with an examination of daily life in the city before the war began-how slaves outnumbered whites, how an unvarnished frontier atmosphere prevailed on the streets despite citizens' claims to refinement, how lush crops of corn and cotton grew in fields right up to the city limits, and how class divisions were distinct and immovable. Rogers arranges his material topically, covering the events that led to the decision for secession and Montgomery's heady days as the Confederacy's first capital; the industrialization of the city's war effort as it became a hub of activity and served as a military post; the city's business patterns and administration as it attempted to promote the Confederacy and defend itself from federal forces; and the plight of the small group of Unionists who inhabited Montgomery through the war. Rogers concludes with chapters examining the situation in Montgomery as the Confederacy unraveled and the city fell to Union troops. The Montgomery experience offers a microcosm of life on the Confederate home front and demonstrates that citizens generally experienced the same hopes, deprivations, and tragedies that other Southerners did at this time. Rogers's well-written, comprehensive history of the wartime city makes an original contribution to Civil War homefront and community studies that should appeal to general readers and scholars alike.

From Library JournalIn his new work, Rogers (*Black Belt Scalawag: Charles Hays and the Southern Republicans in an Era of Reconstruction*, LJ 8/93) provides an engaging account of Montgomery, AL, as the Confederacy's first capital (February to May 1861) and major rebel subsistence depot and railroad nexus. Rogers considers such aspects of Montgomery life as the effectiveness of city governments; the nature and extent of the contract work done by its businessmen and artisans for the Confederacy; the municipal constabulary's attempts to keep public order, control crime, and prevent price-gouging and hoarding; the spectrum of bawdy and respectable wartime entertainment; the hardships endured by the city's women; the contributions to the city's defense made by impressed slaves; and the charities undertaken by benevolent and interfaith societies. Rogers devotes an intriguing chapter to the plight of Union sympathizers. The final sections portray a city locked within a disintegrating nation and ripe for the taking. This book is crisply written, appropriately illustrated, and painstakingly researchedAa fine effort, recommended for large public and academic libraries.AJohn Carver Edwards, Univ. of Georgia Libs., Athens Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. "An admirable presentation of one Southern town's sojourn through the war, this is a valuable contribution to the field."