

Mountain Rebels: East Tennessee Confederates and the Civil War, 1860-1870

W. Todd Groce

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ODThe former Executive Director of the East Tennessee Historical Society, present Executive Director of the Georgia Historical Society, has provided an excellent study on the East Tennessee Confederates. In this scholarly, balanced work, Todd Groce details why so many Knoxville and other East Tennessee business men who sided with the South wound up as post-war business leaders in Atlanta, Savannah and other Georgia cities. The area suffered because of this "brain drain" until the South's Marshall Plan (the TVA) arrived in the 1940s. It is interesting that the ET farmers largely sided with the North, while the more "cosmopolitan" businessmen, who had traveled to Baltimore and Philadelphia to buy goods, became Confederates. The complexity of the issue demanded this study. Perhaps no other part of the nation was so delayed in the "healing process" Lincoln had planned as was East Tennessee. Historian Groce's ten years of research bears fruit.

Recommended!