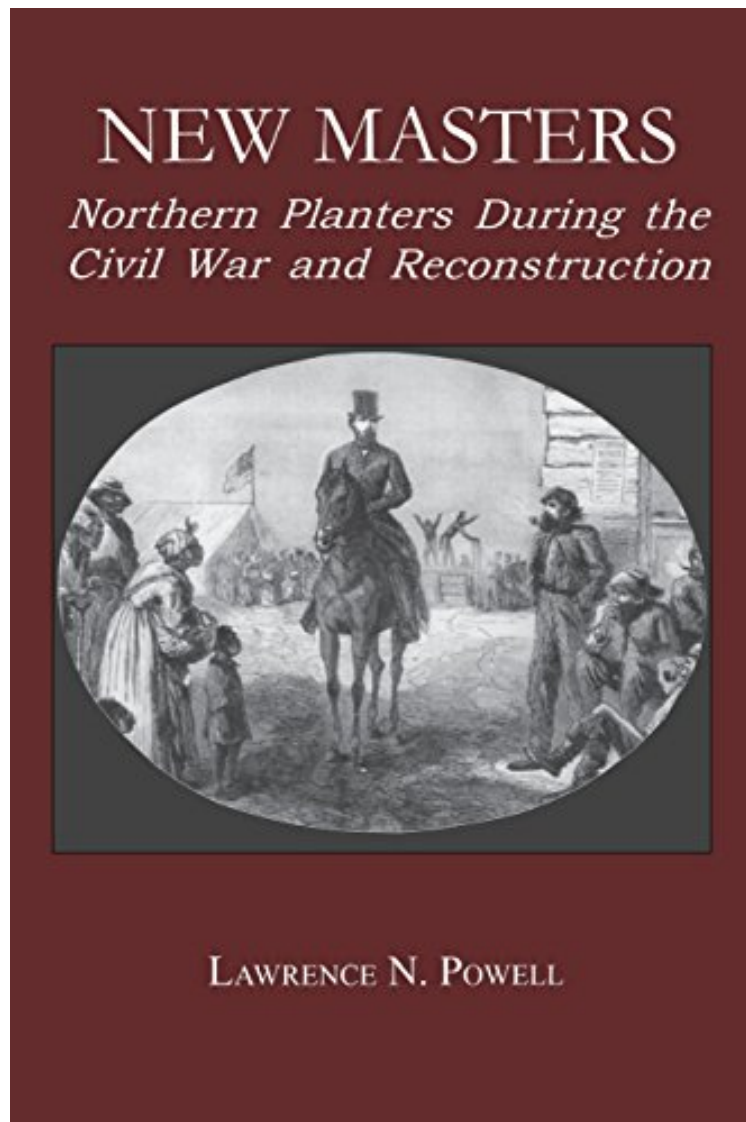


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New Masters: Northern Planters During the Civil War and Reconstruction. (The North's Civil War)

Lawrence N. Powell

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Lawrence N. Powell : New Masters: Northern Planters During the Civil War and Reconstruction. (The North's Civil War) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised New Masters: Northern Planters During the Civil War and Reconstruction. (The North's Civil War):

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Accurate but DryBy Gladys JohnsonNew Masters by Powell appears

to be a thesis that was then published. It represents a great amount of work to compile the data and bits of information. It lacks a human touch. Very little in examples of the effects on individuals.

New Masters: Northern Planters during the Civil War and Reconstruction, analyzes the North's efforts to transform the South, both during and after the war, into a free labor economy and society. In this ground-breaking work, Lawrence N. Powell addresses the role that the twenty to fifty thousand "new masters," or northern planters, had on the post-reconstruction system. Covering evidence of over five hundred northern planters, Powell asserts that northern emigrants provided much of the capital that hard-pressed southern planters used to stave off bankruptcy; showing that these planters became both the catalyst that perpetuated the plantation system of servitude and debt, as well as became the reason behind the revitalization of the South. *New Masters* deals with a variety of issues, including race relations, Northern planters' motivations, work habits, capital investment patterns, and the planters' gradual disillusionment as problems mounted and profits declined.

His sensitive narrative nicely balances general discussions with telling anecdotes, and his interpretations are uniformly intelligent and generally convincing. (New York Times Book Review) "Not only an important addition to Reconstruction literature but also a demonstration as to how American history should ideally be written. . . . Anyone interested in Southern history, whether professional historian or casual reader, will find Powell's book difficult to lay aside until it has been read from start to finish." (American Historical Association) About the Author Lawrence N. Powell is Professor of History at Tulane University in New Orleans. He is author of numerous books including *Papers of Frederick Douglass* and *The Politics of Reconstruction*.