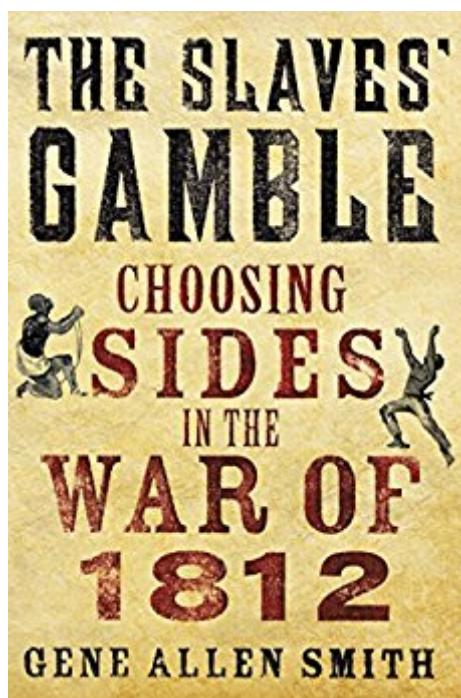


The book was found

The Slaves' Gamble: Choosing Sides In The War Of 1812



Synopsis

Images of American slavery conjure up cotton plantations and African American slaves locked in bondage until the Civil War. Yet early on in the nineteenth century the state of slavery was very different, and the political vicissitudes of the young nation offered diverse possibilities to slaves. In the century's first two decades, the nation waged war against Britain, Spain, and various Indian tribes. Slaves played a role in the military operations, and the different sides viewed them as a potential source of manpower. While surprising numbers did assist the Americans, the wars created opportunities for slaves to find freedom among the Redcoats, the Spaniards, or the Indians. Author Gene Smith draws on a decade of original research and his curatorial work at the Fort Worth Museum in this fascinating and original narrative history. The way the young nation responded sealed the fate of slaves for the next half century until the Civil War. This drama sheds light on an extraordinary yet little known chapter in the dark saga of American history.

Book Information

File Size: 2260 KB

Print Length: 272 pages

Publisher: St. Martin's Press (January 22, 2013)

Publication Date: January 22, 2013

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B009LRWVK0

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #485,423 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #95
in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > History > Americas > United States > African American #109
in Books > History > Military > War of 1812 #458 in Books > History > Americas > United States
> Civil War > Abolition

Customer Reviews

The title and subtitle of this book are somewhat incorrect. The gamble of choosing sides applied to freemen as well as slaves, and as the author relates, these activities actually started well before the

War of 1812. This is an important book that describes the choices faced by African Americans (when that is they had a choice) as to whether to take up arms or serve in other capacities in the conflicts from early in the seventeenth century up through the War of 1812. Early on, the author shows how not long after the first Europeans arrived in the New World, and not long after they had started bringing in black slaves, those slaves were employed to protect their masters from Native American incursions and attacks by other European nations. As some slaves became freemen, they were also sometimes called upon to serve. Yet many white colonists were against the arming of slaves or even "colored" freemen. The American Revolution made this issue even more critical. Many American leaders were slave holders and resisted any calls to recruit slaves or black freemen, but manpower shortages often forced their hands. Yet after the war, promises of freedom offered for military service were often forgotten and laws passed to restrict black participation in militias or other military areas. As tension mounted between the United States and Great Britain in the early years of the nineteenth century, British and Indian incursions into the Old Northwest states of Michigan, Indiana, Ohio and Illinois brought pressure upon the political leaders to once again call upon black slaves and freemen to take up arms to provide defense for these areas.

The war of 1812 is considered much less significant and is not as well taught in schools as the Revolution. In other words this war seems something as an after thought. Dr. Smith brings this part of American history more to light. Dr. Smith is a history professor at Texas Christian University and a history curator at the Fort Worth Museim of Science and History. He was a speaker at this Fort Worth museum, spoke about his book, signed and autographed copies. He has also spoken about other eras in American History at the museum. An interesting fact which I never knew is that many slaves were leaving Canada to go to the northern states where there was no slavery at that time and place. This is one of many interesting facts. White Carolinians used blacks to defeat Native Americans in the past, then provided Indians with ammunition, guns, and ways to capture escaped slaves, thereby turning one disenfranchised group against another. This is another interesting fact of history and well documented. The northern states abolished slavery, the south did not. Slaves fled to the north to get away from slavery. Blacks served in almost all battles. There were black regiments, few gained noteriety, few served as officers. There were free black communities in large cities, run away slaves fled to these cities and also blended into maroon communities, assimilated with Native Americans, enlisted in the British Navy, did many ways to get away from being slaves. Surprisingly the British offered slaves a way to become free by joining up with British forces. Slave owners would lease their slaves to those needing help, then keep the slaves salaries.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Slaves' Gamble: Choosing Sides in the War of 1812 The War of 1812: The War That Both Sides Won Staff Ride Handbook for the Niagara Campaigns, 1812-1814 - War of 1812 - New York and Canada Settlements, Queenston Heights, Stoney Creek, Chippawa, Lundy's Lane, Fort Erie, President Madison I Am Canada: A Call to Battle: The War of 1812, Alexander MacKay, Upper Canada, 1812 The Call to Arms: The 1812 Invasions of Upper Canada (Upper Canada Preserved _ War of 1812) 1812: The War of 1812 Vietnam War: The Vietnam War in 50 Events: From the First Indochina War to the Fall of Saigon (War Books, Vietnam War Books, War History) (History in 50 Events Series Book 6) World War 2 History's 10 Most Incredible Women: World War II True Accounts Of Remarkable Women Heroes (WWII history, WW2, War books, world war 2 books, war history, World war 2 women) Nasser's Gamble: How Intervention in Yemen Caused the Six-Day War and the Decline of Egyptian Power World War 1: World War I in 50 Events: From the Very Beginning to the Fall of the Central Powers (War Books, World War 1 Books, War History) (History in 50 Events Series) World War 1: Soldier Stories: The Untold Soldier Stories on the Battlefields of WWI (World War I, WWI, World War One, Great War, First World War, Soldier Stories) World War 2: World War II in 50 Events: From the Very Beginning to the Fall of the Axis Powers (War Books, World War 2 Books, War History) (History in 50 Events Series Book 4) How to gamble at the casinos without getting plucked like a chicken Gamble To Win Roulette The Golden Rules of Gambling: How to Gamble Smart and Win Burke's Gamble: Bob Burke Suspense Thriller #2: an American Sniper Delta Force Mafia Murder Mystery (Bob Burke Action Adventure Novels) The Battle for Social Security: From FDR's Vision To Bush's Gamble How to Gamble If You Must: Inequalities for Stochastic Processes (Dover Books on Mathematics) Whispers of War: The War of 1812 Diary of Susanna Merritt The Tide of War: The 1814 Invasions of Upper Canada (Upper Canada Preserved _ War of 1812)

[Dmca](#)