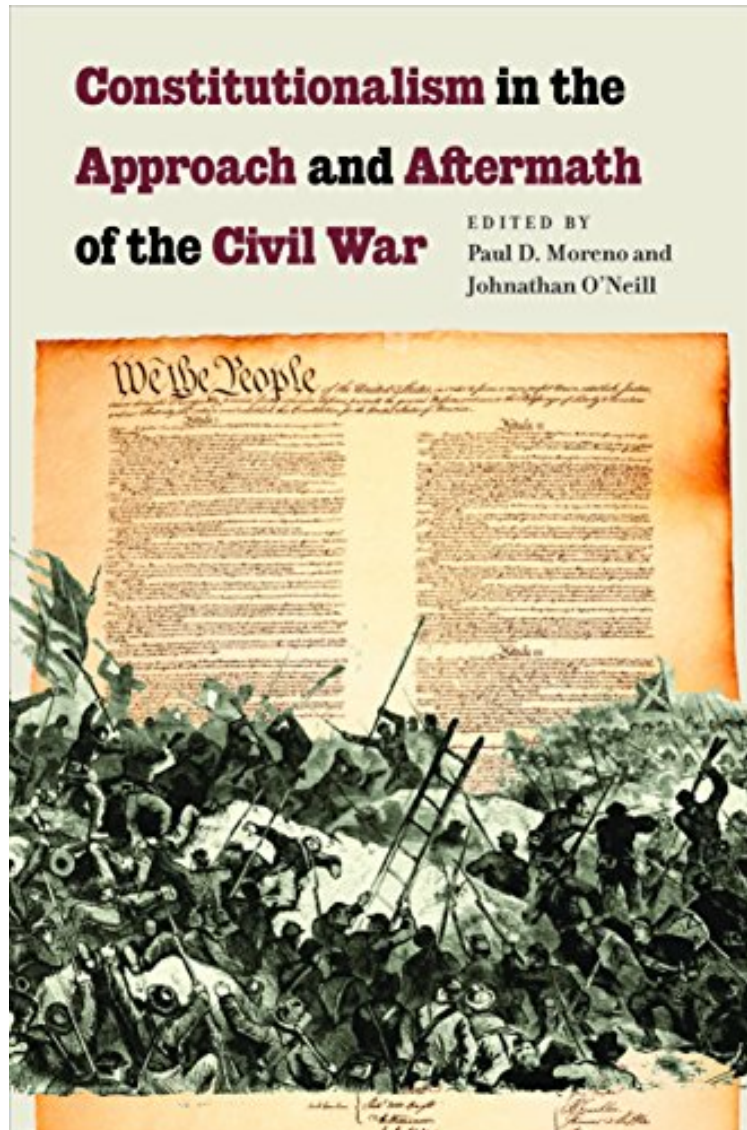


Constitutionalism in the Approach and Aftermath of the Civil War (The North's Civil War)

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From Brand: Fordham University Press : Constitutionalism in the Approach and Aftermath of the Civil War (The North's Civil War) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Constitutionalism in the Approach and Aftermath of the Civil War (The North's Civil War):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Interesting View of the Constitution and its use during the Civil War. By Timothy E. Massey This book is a collection of essays of Constitutional questions, some going back to the

Revolution and many still debated today. From what George Washington thought about the Union, to Abraham Lincoln's view of citizenship for former slaves is only a small part of the fascinating items covered. The book is divided into three sections. The first section is *Constitutionalism Endangered: The Road to Civil War*. The next section is *Legal Change and Constitutional Politics in Reconstruction and The Gilded Age*. The third part is titled: *Contesting the Legacy of Lincoln and the Civil War in the Progressive Era*. One might not agree with the overall book, or one may not see eye to eye with the essayist. However it will give some insight into the minds of others in regard to Constitutional issues which have shaped our history and even our current form of Government. Even women's constitutional issues as they are tied to the Civil War are discussed here. This work is not for everybody, but everybody should endeavor to gain a better understanding of our Constitution and manipulation by those in power. Every Civil War reader needs to study how the Constitution was used and abused during the period leading up to, during, and after the war.

The irreducibly constitutional nature of the Civil War's prelude and legacy is the focus of this absorbing collection of nine essays by a diversity of political theorists and historians. The contributors examine key constitutional developments leading up to the war, the crucial role of Abraham Lincoln's statesmanship, and how the constitutional aspects of the war and Reconstruction endured in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. This thoughtful, informative volume covers a wide range of topics: from George Washington's conception of the Union and his fears for its future to Martin Van Buren's state-centered, anti-secessionist federalism; from Lincoln's approach to citizenship for African Americans to Woodrow Wilson's attempt to appropriate Lincoln for the goals of Progressivism. Each essay zeroes in on the constitutional causes or consequences of the war and emphasizes how constitutional principles shape political activity. Accordingly, important figures, disputes, and judicial decisions are placed within the broader context of the constitutional system to explain how ideas and institutions, independently and in dialogue with the courts, have oriented political action and shaped events over time.

"This important book doesn't consider the Civil War in isolation but links up the war with the great constitutional questions of the Revolution and the Progressive Era. It is a valuable and original contribution to the field of legal history and American history more broadly." (Daniel W. Hamilton University of Illinois College of Law)

Constitutionalism in the Approach and Aftermath of the Civil War is a stunning collection, one worthy of the attention of everyone with an interest in the political questions surrounding the nature and extent of constitutionalism in the American republic. Paul Moreno and Johnathan O'Neill have assembled a stellar group of essayists whose contributions both broaden and deepen our understanding of this important issue. It is also altogether fitting that such a superb collection should be dedicated to one of the nation's most distinguished constitutionalists, Professor Herman Belz. (Gary McDowell University of Richmond)

The Civil War has not usually been studied as a constitutional conflict. Yet it was a constitutional struggle, fully as much as a military one, from the first clangor of secession to the postwar controversies over confiscation, treason, and military tribunals. And on any of those points, it was a war which could be lost as easily by the change of one vote on the Supreme Court as it could by one change of outcome in a battle. These issues have been given a new life by the way they have resurfaced in the War on Terror, and this masterful collection of essays not only illuminates them with never-before-seen historical research, but skilfully links the constitutionalism of the Civil War era with modern debates and concepts of the Constitution. (Allen C. Guelzo Henry R. Luce Professor of the Civil War Era, Gettysburg College)

About the Author Paul D. Moreno is the William and Berniece Grewcock Chair in the American Constitution and is the Dean of Faculty at Hillsdale College. He is the author of *From Direct Action to Affirmative Action: Fair Employment Law and Policy in America*, and *Black Americans and Organized Labor: A New History*, both published by Louisiana State University Press. He has written *A Concise History of the American Constitution* for the National Association of Scholars. He completed his PhD under the direction of Herman Belz at the University of Maryland in 1994. Johnathan O'Neill is Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of History at Georgia Southern University. He is the author of *Originalism in American Law and Politics: A Constitutional History* (2005) and co-editor (with Gary L. McDowell) of a multi-author essay collection, *America and Enlightenment Constitutionalism* (2006). His articles have appeared in the *Journal of Politics*, the *Modern Law Review*, and the *Northwestern University Law Review*. His current research is on "Constitutionalism and American Conservatism in the Twentieth Century," and articles related to this project have been published in the *Journal of Church and State*, *Rethinking History: The Journal of Theory and Practice*, and *The European Legacy: Toward New Paradigms*. He completed his PhD under the direction of Herman Belz at the University of Maryland in 2000.