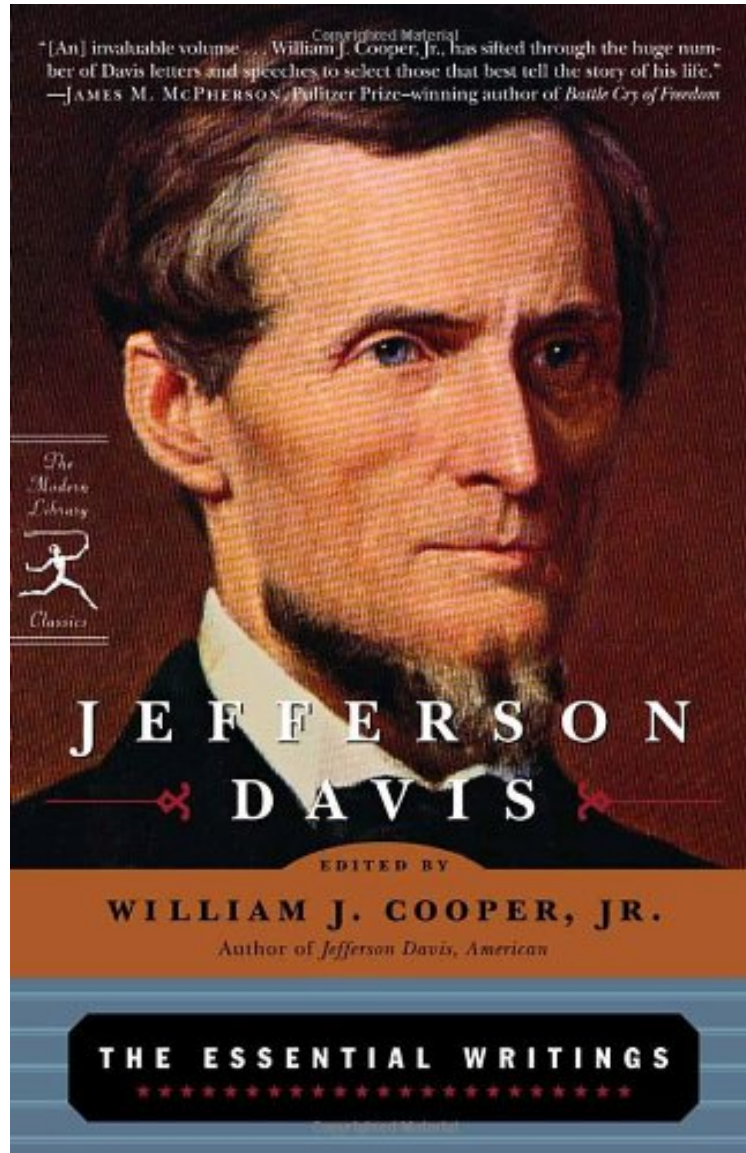


[Free download] Jefferson Davis: The Essential Writings (Modern Library Classics)

Jefferson Davis: The Essential Writings (Modern Library Classics)

Jefferson Davis

DOC | *audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub



DOWNLOAD



+

READ ONLINE

#833213 in Books Modern Library 2004-08-10 2004-08-10Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.10 x 1.10 x 5.30l, .98 #File Name: 0812972082496 pages | File size: 55.Mb

Jefferson Davis : Jefferson Davis: The Essential Writings (Modern Library Classics) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Jefferson Davis: The Essential Writings (Modern Library Classics):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. ImpressiveBy Michael WarrenThis book really helps you understand what was going on with Pres. Davis during the War Between The States. You don't often get to read his speeches, they

aren't really taught. However, in this book you are privy to his inner world. Although Pres. Lincoln may have had a more florid style of oratory at his disposal, it doesn't mean Pres. Davis and his plain, determined speaking should be snubbed historically. Pres. Davis doesn't cheapen his style like modern politicians tend to. I think everyone should try and read the speeches and commentaries of the southern leadership to get a more accurate picture of what the war was really fought over. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. goodBy Mercedesdepogood10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. excellent, gripping, comprehensiveBy Garry BoulardJefferson Davis remains a dark, remote Civil War figure, hardly as romantic as Lincoln or as inspiring as Lee. What William C. Davis has done is to make both the man and the forces that gave him fire and light more immediate and tangible. Weaving through the myriad controversies and struggles of the pre-Civil War, Civil War and post war years, the author somehow manages to explain endless geographical, political and societal issues without ever losing sight of Davis' central role in them. A dense but vastly entertaining book that even readers who are not interested in the Civil War would find fascinating.

Jefferson Davis is one of the most complex and controversial figures in American political history (and the man whom Oscar Wilde wanted to meet more than anyone when he made his tour of the United States). Elected president of the Confederacy and later accused of participating in the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, he is a source of ongoing dissension between northerners and southerners. This volume, the first of its kind, is a selected collection of his writings culled in large part from the authoritative Papers of Jefferson Davis, a multivolume edition of his letters and speeches published by the Louisiana State University Press, and includes thirteen documents from manuscript collections and one privately held document that have never before appeared in a modern scholarly edition. From letters as a college student to his sister, to major speeches on the Constitution, slavery, and sectional issues, to his farewell to the U.S. Senate, to his inaugural address as Confederate president, to letters from prison to his wife, these selected pieces present the many faces of the enigmatic Jefferson Davis. As William J. Cooper, Jr., writes in his Introduction, "Davis's notability does not come solely from his crucial role in the Civil War. Born on the Kentucky frontier in the first decade of the nineteenth century, he witnessed and participated in the epochal transformation of the United States from a fledgling country to a strong nation spanning the continent. In his earliest years his father moved farther south and west to Mississippi. As a young army officer just out of West Point, he served on the northwestern and southwestern frontiers in an army whose chief mission was to protect settlers surging westward. Then, in 1846 and 1847, as colonel of the First Mississippi Regiment, he fought in the Mexican War, which resulted in 1848 in the Mexican Cession, a massive addition to the United States of some 500,000 square miles, including California and the modern Southwest. As secretary of war and U.S. senator in the 1850s, he advocated government support for the building of a transcontinental railroad that he believed essential to bind the nation from ocean to ocean." From the Hardcover edition.

From Publishers WeeklyThe Confederacy may have lost the Civil War, but its self-justifications remained influential for generations afterward, and this useful collection of writings by its leader and spokesman sums up its worldview. Cooper (Jefferson Davis, American) gathers over 200 pieces from Davis's long career as a planter, soldier, politician and Confederate President, including letters to family and friends, addresses to the U. S. and Confederate Congresses, military communications from the Mexican and Civil Wars and Davis's unrepentant post-war elegies for the Lost Cause of states' rights. The prolix, rambling Davis is not a great rhetorician, but the well-chosen assortment of writings illuminates consistent themes in pro-slavery apologetics. Davis paints slavery as a benevolent paternalism that spreads Christianity, stimulates the economy and lowers the price of cotton goods; most importantly, it ensures the dignity and equality of whites by reserving menial positions to blacks. His Civil War communiqués harp on Yankee barbarism and the South's desperate shortages of manpower and supplies; towards the end, with Southern armies melting away, he calls for Southern women to urge men to fight and shun those who didn't. Davis even made plans to recruit slaves to the army by offering them freedom, thus broaching the very social revolution he had spent his life trying to forestall. Unfortunately, Cooper provides no explanatory notes except for those that identify people mentioned in the text, so some documents, especially those about family matters, remain opaque. But patient readers will be rewarded with an eye-opening look at the debacle and reconstruction of Confederate ideology. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. "Eclipsed in our memory of the Civil War by Abraham Lincoln, Robert E. Lee, and other military heroes, Jefferson Davis was arguably one of the most important figures in the antebellum and wartime eras. Davis's biographer William J. Cooper, Jr., has sifted through the huge number of Davis letters and speeches to select those that best tell the story of his life and provide insight on his character in this invaluable volume." —James M. McPherson, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era* "To have the most important letters, speeches, and public documents of Jefferson Davis gathered into a single volume is invaluable. To have Jefferson Davis's leading modern biographer making the selection and placing the documents in context was inspired." —George C. Rable, Charles G. Summersell Professor of Southern History, University of Alabama, and author of *Fredericksburg! Fredericksburg!*, winner of the 2003 Lincoln Prize "This volume, full of well-chosen words from Jefferson Davis, must be on every Civil War buff's bookshelf." —William W. Freehling, Singletary Chair in the

Humanities at the University of Kentucky and author of *The South vs. The South: How Anti-Confederate Southerners Shaped the Course of the Civil War* "William J. Cooper, Jr., is exactly the right person to prepare a useful and accessible single-volume edition of Davis's most important writings, and he has performed that task superbly. Historians, students, and the general public alike will all find this to be a fascinating volume." —Michael F. Holt, Langbourne M. Williams Professor of American History, University of Virginia, and co-author of *The Civil War and Reconstruction* "He had the pride, the spirit of initiative, the capacity in business which qualify men for leadership, and lacked nothing of the indomitable will and imperious purpose to make his leadership effective." —Woodrow Wilson

From the Hardcover edition. From the Inside Flap Jefferson Davis is one of the most complex and controversial figures in American political history (and the man whom Oscar Wilde wanted to meet more than anyone when he made his tour of the United States). Elected president of the Confederacy and later accused of participating in the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, he is a source of ongoing dissension between northerners and southerners. This volume, the first of its kind, is a selected collection of his writings culled in large part from the authoritative "Papers of Jefferson Davis, a multivolume edition of his letters and speeches published by the Louisiana State University Press, and includes thirteen documents from manuscript collections and one privately held document that have never before appeared in a modern scholarly edition. From letters as a college student to his sister, to major speeches on the Constitution, slavery, and sectional issues, to his farewell to the U.S. Senate, to his inaugural address as Confederate president, to letters from prison to his wife, these selected pieces present the many faces of the enigmatic Jefferson Davis. As William J. Cooper, Jr., writes in his Introduction, "Davis's notability does not come solely from his crucial role in the Civil War. Born on the Kentucky frontier in the first decade of the nineteenth century, he witnessed and participated in the epochal transformation of the United States from a fledgling country to a strong nation spanning the continent. In his earliest years his father moved farther south and west to Mississippi. As a young army officer just out of West Point, he served on the northwestern and southwestern frontiers in an army whose chief mission was to protect settlers surging westward. Then, in 1846 and 1847, as colonel of the First Mississippi Regiment, he fought in the Mexican War, which resulted in 1848 in the Mexican Cession, a massive addition to the United States of some 500,000 square miles, including California and the modern Southwest. As secretary of war and U.S. senator in the 1850s, he advocated government support for the building of a transcontinental railroad that he believed essential to bind the nation from ocean to ocean." "From the Hardcover edition.