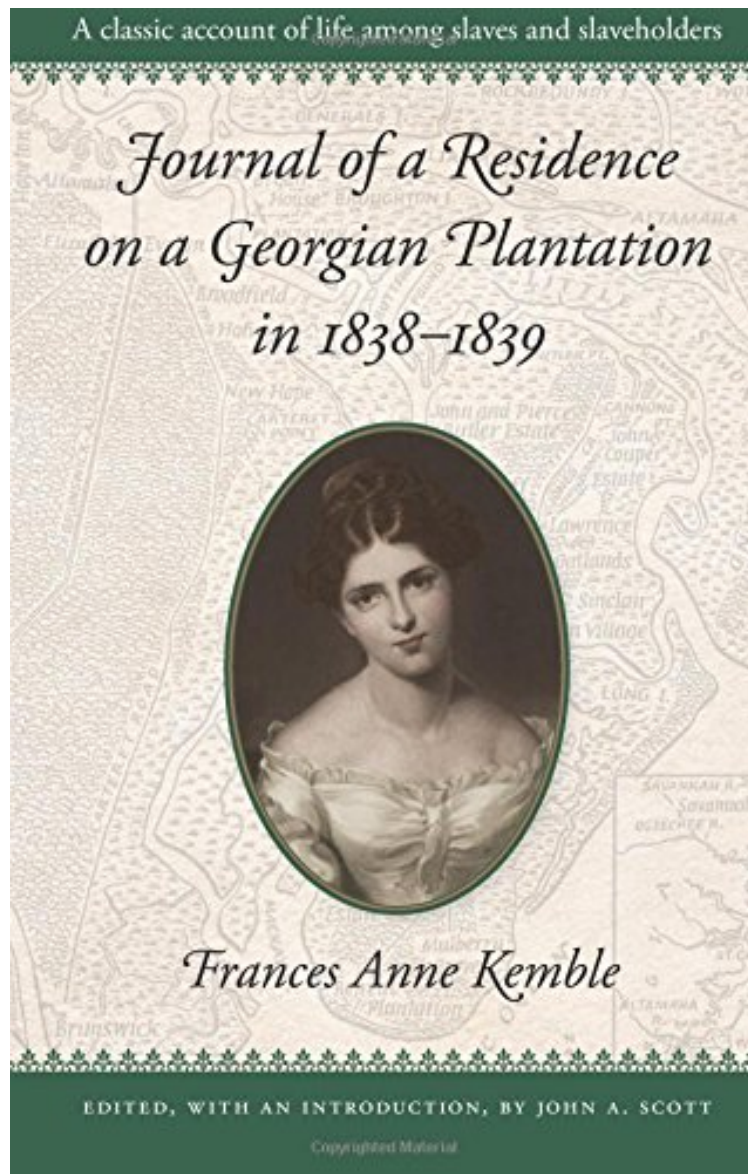


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Journal of a Residence on a Georgian Plantation in 1838–1839 (Brown Thrasher Books Ser.)

Frances Kemble

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Frances Kemble : Journal of a Residence on a Georgian Plantation in 1838–1839 (Brown Thrasher Books Ser.)
before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Journal of a Residence
on a Georgian Plantation in 1838–1839 (Brown Thrasher Books Ser.):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This woman's husband and the slave owners in the area seemed to struggle to provide for the number of slaves they had which I'm sure made their situation even worse. I found myself irritated with the author and her inability to change the slaves' situation while at the same time realizing there wasn't much she could do given her position. It was frustrating to read. There was a bit too much narrative concerning the flora and fauna of the area which I found myself skipping over towards the end of the book. Overall, it provided a new perspective for me and I'm glad I decided to read it.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Historical Account of Southern Slavery By Pjdellas If you want to read a compelling, firsthand account of the conditions of slavery in the Antebellum south, this book is a MUST READ.

3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Journal of a Residence explains a lot about racism as we know it. By Janet Dolder We visited Georgia and South Carolina in October and heard many faint apologies for the role the southern states played in slavery. This book takes you back to the way things really were. Frances Anne Kemble's writing is very easy to read and her strong character permeates her journal. But her distaste for slavery and her sympathy for the slaves owned by her husband do not overshadow her desire to draw an accurate picture of the way slaves and those who supervised them lived together on a Georgian plantation. This book is very edifying and explains a lot about the evolution of racism in the United States. Today's stereotypes were formed two centuries ago. Everyone should read it.

Originally published in 1863, out-of-print and unavailable for almost a century, Frances Anne Kemble's *Journal* has long been recognized by historians as unique in the literature of American slavery and invaluable for obtaining a clear view of the "peculiar institution" and of life in the antebellum South. Fanny Kemble was one of the leading lights of the English stage in the nineteenth century. During a tour of America in the 1830s she met and married a wealthy Philadelphian, Pierce Butler, part of whose fortune derived from his family's vast cotton and rice plantation on the Sea Islands of Georgia. After their marriage she spent several months living on the plantation. Profoundly shocked by what she saw, she recorded her observations of plantation life in a series of journal entries written as letters to a friend. But she never sent the letters, and not until the Civil War was on and Fanny was divorced from Pierce Butler and living in England were they published. This Brown Thrasher edition incorporates the valuable introduction written by John A. Scott for the 1961 edition published by Alfred A. Knopf, together with the editor's appendices to that edition. It provides the modern reader with the historical and biographical background to move freely and with ease in Mrs. Kemble's world.

A leading British actress, Fanny Kemble married a wealthy Philadelphian during her American tour in 1834. She abandoned the stage and settled into married life, initially unaware of her husband's 'dreadful possessions,' some 700 slaves on his coastal Georgia plantations. Her *Journal* covers a period of almost four months, recording grief and outrage at the depredations of slavery. . . . The University of Georgia Press has restored a rightful classic to print. (Atlanta Magazine) A classic study of life and the living conditions of both owners and slaves. (Florida Historical Quarterly) Long recognized as unique in the literature of American slavery and of life in the antebellum South. (Virginia Quarterly) From the Back Cover Fanny Kemble was one of the leading lights of the English stage in the nineteenth century. During a tour of America in the 1830s she met and married a wealthy Philadelphian, Pierce Butler, part of whose fortune derived from his family's cotton and rice plantation on the Sea Islands of Georgia. About the Author Frances Anne "Fanny" Kemble (27 November 1809 – 15 January 1893) was a notable British actress from a theatre family in the early and mid-19th century. She was a well-known and popular writer, whose published works included plays, poetry, eleven volumes of memoirs, travel writing and works about the theatre. In 1834, Kemble retired from the stage to marry an American, Pierce Mease Butler. Although they met and lived in Philadelphia, Butler was the grandson of Pierce Butler, a Founding Father, and heir to a large fortune in cotton, tobacco and rice plantations. By the time the couple's daughters, Sarah and Frances, were born, Butler had inherited three of his grandfather's Sea Island plantations and the hundreds of people who were enslaved on them. The family visited Georgia during the winter of 1838–39, where they lived at the plantations at Butler and St. Simons islands, in conditions primitive compared to their house in Philadelphia. Kemble was shocked by the living and working conditions of the slaves and their treatment at the hands of the overseers and managers. She tried to improve conditions and complained to her husband about slavery, and about the mixed-race slave children attributed to the overseer, Roswell King, Jr. When the family returned to Philadelphia in the spring of 1839, Kemble and her husband were suffering marital tensions. In addition to their disagreements over treatment of the slave families at Butler's plantations, Kemble was "embittered and embarrassed" by Butler's marital infidelities. Butler threatened to deny Kemble access to their daughters if she published any of her observations about the plantations. By 1845, the marriage

had failed irretrievably, and Kemble returned to Europe.