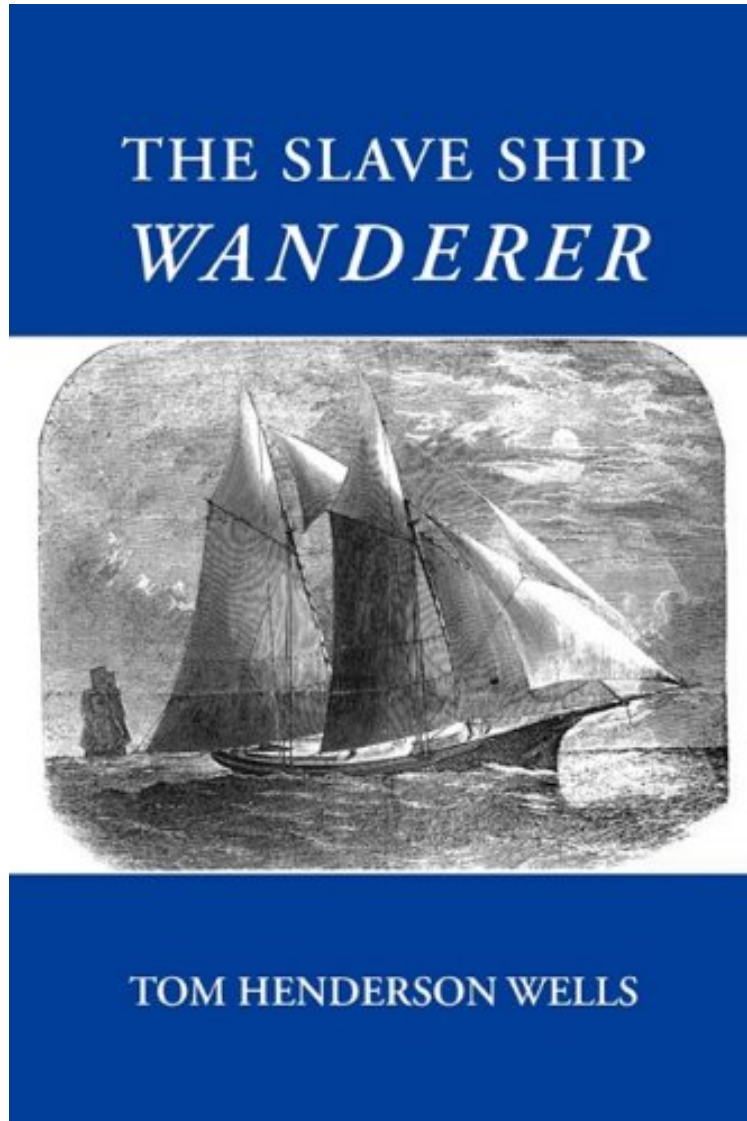


The Slave Ship Wanderer

Tom Henderson Wells

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Tom Henderson Wells : The Slave Ship Wanderer before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Slave Ship Wanderer:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Interesting part of history By Helen O'Donoghue Have not finished reading it yet - I dip in and out but it is so interesting. It arrived in a timely manner and is in great condition. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. The Slave Ship Wanderer By william seale Tom Henderson Wells's saga of the elegant sailing yacht Wanderer, member of the New York Yacht Club and its clandestine missions in the late 1850s to transport human chattel to the United States is a thrilling narrative, based upon solid fact. On the heels of

Bleeding Kansas, the shocking apprehension of the Wanderer, breaking half a century later the 1808 ban on the importation of slaves into the United States came at a time when relations between North and South were raw nerves. The Wanderer's northern origins and apparently elegant role as a yacht belied her real work. Quite by accident she was apprehended on her way to the Georgia coast and the national scandal unfolded, burning through the newspapers all over the United States and, perhaps ironically, feeding the fires of sectional hate.

Published in 1967, *The Slave Ship Wanderer* details the journey of the elegant yacht that was used to secretly land a cargo of 400 enslaved Africans off the coast of Jekyll Island, Georgia, in 1859. It was the last successful large-scale importation of slaves into the United States, and it was done in defiance of a federal law. The Wanderer's crew had outrun ships of both the British and American Navies and the creators of the plot went on to evade federal marshals as they attempted to sell the slaves throughout the South. Tom Henderson Wells documents the story behind the prominent Georgian, Charles Lamar, who engineered the plot. He also explores the regional and national attention the story received and the failure to prosecute those involved. In tracing the story of the Wanderer, Wells provides insight into the heated political and social climate of the South on the verge of secession.

[A] valuable addition to the scholarly literature dealing with the illegal slave trade under the American flag. (*Journal of American History*) Wells tells his fascinating story well. (*American Historical*) Perhaps the most important contribution which Professor Wells makes is the light he sheds on the spirit of the times during years when, despite lack of strong public support for reviving the slave trade, public prosecutors, marshals, judges, and private individuals felt that militant loyalty to their section demanded their defiance of the laws. . . . This monograph is an interesting addition to the slim biography of the slave trade. (*Journal of Southern History*) About the Author Tom Henderson Wells (1917-1971) served more than twenty-five years in the Navy and received the Bronze Star in the Korean War. He is the author of numerous books including "Commodore Moore and the Texas Navy" and "The Confederate Navy: A Study in Organization."