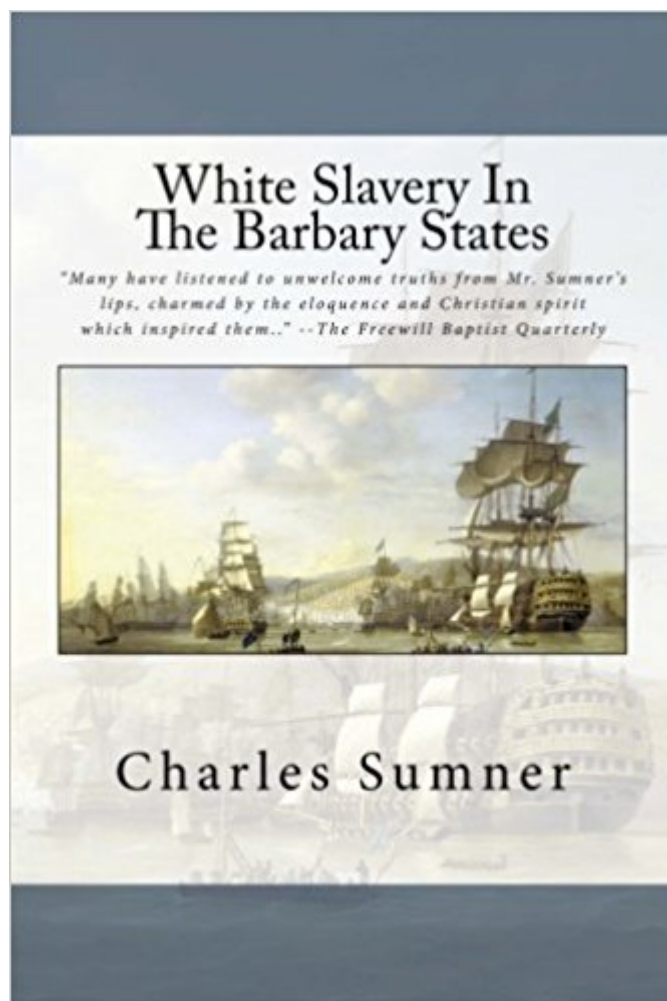


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White Slavery In The Barbary States



Synopsis

"The author of this little work, the Hon. Charles Sumner, was one of the few senators of the United States who had the manliness to oppose the passing of the Fugitive Slave Act as unconstitutional, as well as unjust and cruel....Mr. Sumner's speech in the senate was one of great ability, as well as of much benevolence, and the same spirit is apparent in the present volume. A sketch is given of the history of slavery in the Barbary States, containing many events of historical interest, and the incidents of particular cases on record. There are some stirring narratives of captivity among the Algerines, and of the adventures and escapes of European and of American captives. The work is valuable as a historical sketch, and it cannot fail to exert a favorable influence on American readers, in calling forth generous sympathies, and awakening the sense of justice and humanity towards the oppressed - feelings which, in the case of Negro slavery, are overborne by motives of self-interest and of political expediency. Some remarkable extracts are contained in the work from the writings and speeches of many of the founders of the American Republic, denouncing the crimes and deploring the evils of slavery, and giving counsel for its speedy abolition." -The Literary Gazette, January 1, 1853

"'White Slavery' was originally delivered as a lecture in various places, and depicts the woes and barbarities which conquered and captured Christians have suffered in the north of Africa. Many have listened to unwelcome truths from Mr. Sumner's lips, charmed by the eloquence and Christian spirit which inspired them. They will probably read this volume with more pleasure - the wrong depicted not being our own." -The Freewill Baptist Quarterly

The revolting custom of White Slavery in the Barbary States was, for many years, the shame of modern civilization. The nations of Europe made constant efforts, continued through successive centuries, to procure its abolition, and also to rescue their subjects from its fearful doom. These may be traced in the diversified pages of history, and in the authentic memoirs of the times. Literature also affords illustrations, which must not be neglected. At one period, the French, the Italians, and the Spaniards borrowed the plots of their stories mostly from this source. The adventures of Robinson Crusoe make our childhood familiar with one of its forms. Among his early trials, he was piratically captured by a rover from Salle, a port of Morocco, on the Atlantic Ocean, and reduced to slavery. "At this surprising change of circumstances," he says, "from a merchant to a miserable slave, I was perfectly overwhelmed; and now I looked back upon my father's prophetic discourse to me, that I should be miserable, and have none to relieve me, which I thought was so effectually brought to pass, that I could not be worse." And Cervantes, in the story of Don Quixote, over which so many generations have shaken with laughter, turns aside from its genial current to give the narrative of a Spanish captive who had escaped from Algiers. The author is supposed to have drawn from his

own experience; for during five years and a half he endured the horrors of Algerine slavery, from which he was finally liberated by a ransom of about six hundred dollars. This inconsiderable sum of money – less than the price of an intelligent African slave in our own Southern States – gave to freedom, to his country, and to mankind the author of Don Quixote.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Charles Sumner (January 6, 1811 – March 11, 1874) was an American politician and senator from Massachusetts. An academic lawyer and a powerful orator, Sumner was the leader of the antislavery forces in Massachusetts and a leader of the Radical Republicans in the United States Senate during the American Civil War working to destroy the Confederacy, free all the slaves and keep on good terms with Europe. During Reconstruction, he fought to minimize the power of the ex-Confederates and guarantee equal rights to the Freedmen.

Yes all KINDS of parallels were drawn between white slavery versus black slavery, but I also found the history interesting. This book has piqued my curiosity. North African history in the 18th Century isn't always studied. Give it a try.

This book provides an excellent level of context for the North African slave trade that was prevalent up through the early 1800's. Though the book focuses on many specific cases of Europeans and several North Americans captured and sold at the slave markets it also points out that Arab and Sub-Saharan slaves were sold in the same way in the same markets without distinction by racial grouping. The North African slave trade in European captives goes back at least to the days of the

Roman Empire and only stopped when different nations including the USA, the U.K. and the Dutch sent military vessels to end it in the early years of the 19th century. After that the UK Royal Navy conducted slave patrols around North and West Africa to halt all international slave trading.

Interesting and a hard-to-put-down book. I highly recommend this book to history lovers and to anyone who thinks they know all there is to know about slavery.

An excellent book giving an in depth view of this historical event.

Better than I expected, well researched and written. I found it very readable and the age of the book disappeared.

Rather dull really. I had hoped for more than "capture narratives"

As a descendant of Irish immigrants, I am horrified to learn how my ancestors were treated and am amazed at the stalwart composure of these same people. I understand so much of how I am from how my bloodline has adapted and prospered in spite of this terrible journey that those of my past have had to endure.

Intersting

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