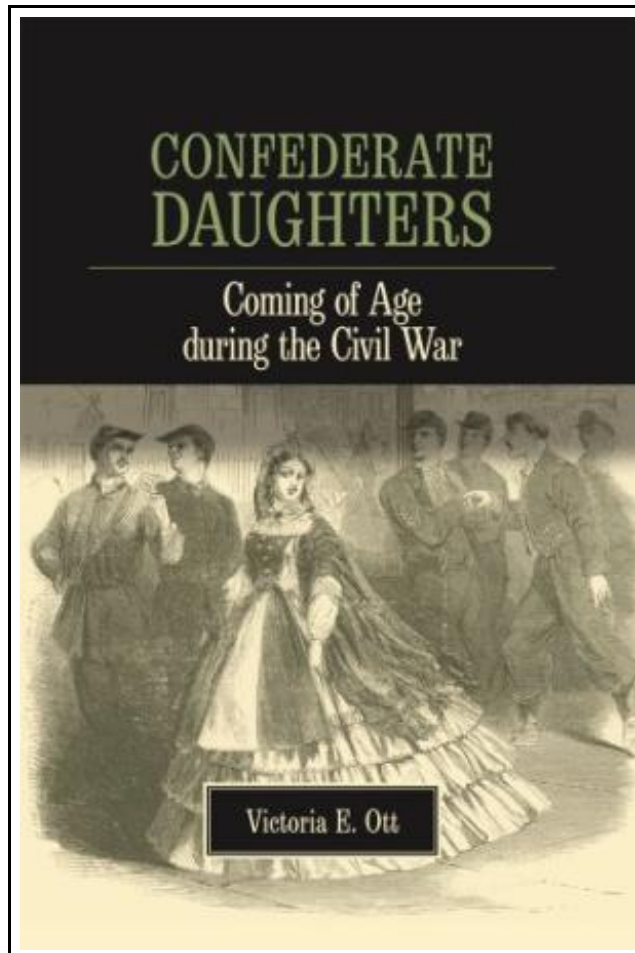


Confederate Daughters: Coming of Age during the Civil War



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(Ariane Rau)

CONFEDERATE DAUGHTERS: COMING OF AGE DURING THE CIVIL WAR



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Southern Illinois University Press, 2008. Book Condition: New. Brand New, Unread Copy in Perfect Condition. A+ Customer Service! Summary: When the Civil War struck home, some of the South's privileged young women suddenly lived in a world of horror - a sharp contrast to the world they were promised as they grew up amid wealth, splendor, traditions, power and slavery. Confederate Daughters reveals a unique and often-overlooked world. We can discuss the great generals, battles and politics of this war, but the carefree world of Southern young ladies of means that was turned upside down has been rarely studied (aside from a fleeting glimpse in *Gone With the Wind*). Victoria Ott, using primary documents, introduces us to many brave, courageous and resourceful women who quickly learned how to survive. Seventeen-year-old Emma Florence LeConte of Columbia, S.C., realized the despair that forced her to become a woman perhaps too quickly: "Truly we girls whose lot in life is to grow up in these times, are unfortunate. No pleasure, no enjoyment nothing but the stern realities of life. These which come later are made familiar to us at an age when only gladness should surround us. I have seen little of the light-heartedness and exuberant joy that people talk about as the natural heritage of youth." The author carefully selected her research subjects. She looked at the number of slaves owned as well as family personal and real property values, and she used these markers to separate the chosen families from yeoman and non-slaveholding families. Ott tells us: "Southern daughters from homes with 20 or fewer slaves comprised over 50 percent of the sample while the remainder came from families with 21 or more slaves. Based on those families with real property value listed in the census, about 45 percent had...



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